

Hartford Courant



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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

State's hospitals under stress

Many workers out sick as patient counts reach levels not seen since early days of the pandemic

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

As the highly transmissible omicron variant sweeps through Connecticut, patient volumes are high and hundreds of health care workers across the state are out

due to COVID-19, straining hospital systems.

"Today, the infectious nature of this omicron variant has created havoc in the workforce," Yale New Haven Health chief nursing officer Beth Beckman said Wednesday. "We can't keep ahead of the health

care workers that are getting sick."

The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 22%, the highest of any time in the past 18 months. Meanwhile, nearly 1,700 people are hospitalized — the largest number since the spring of 2020 when the pandemic first took hold.

At Yale New Haven Health, roughly 400 to 600 health care workers out of the 30,000-employee system have

been absent on a given day recently, Beckman said. Health care workers infected with COVID-19 are generally not sick for long and do not become severely ill, but their absences still disrupts the system, she noted. In some cases, nurse managers and other administrators have stepped up to fill vacancies.

Hartford HealthCare is similarly burdened. President and CEO Jeff

Flaks said Wednesday that more than 600 workers out of 30,000 total were currently out due to COVID-19.

Audrey Silver, the nurse manager of the Hartford Hospital Emergency Department said Wednesday that the hospital has seen "extraordinary" volumes of patients recently, including the

Turn to Hospitals, Page 2



ATTACK ON THE CAPITOL
ONE YEAR LATER

A DARK DAY THAT STILL LINGERS

FOR THE 'GALLERY GROUP' TRAPPED INSIDE CHAMBER, TRAUMA REMAINS

By Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Long after most other lawmakers had been rushed to safety, they were on the hard marble floor, ducking for cover.

Trapped in the gallery of the House, occupying balcony seats off-limits to the public because of COVID-19, roughly three dozen House Democrats were the last ones to leave the chamber on Jan. 6, bearing witness as the certification of a presidential election gave way to a violent insurrection.

As danger neared, and as the rioters were trying to break down the doors, they called their families. They scrambled for makeshift weapons and mentally prepared themselves to fight. Many thought they might die.

"When I looked up, I had this realization that we were trapped," said Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., a former Army Ranger who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. "They had evacuated the House floor first. And



Above: Lawmakers shelter in the gallery last Jan. 6 as supporters of Donald Trump try to breach the House chamber. **ANDREW HARNIK/AP** At top: The U.S. Capitol is framed by barricades in Washington on Wednesday. Despite barricades, rioters were still able to storm the grounds. **SUSAN WALSH/AP**

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MORE INSIDE: The 10 House Republicans who voted to impeach former President Donald Trump did so with the same conviction — that a president of their party deserved to be charged with inciting insurrection Jan. 6, 2021 — and the same hope — that his role in doing so would finally persuade the GOP to repudiate him. But in the year since the deadliest attack on the U.S. Capitol in centuries, none of the 10 lawmakers have been able to avoid the consequences of a fundamental miscalculation about the direction of their party. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

KLEEN ENERGY EXPLOSION

Court denies victims' claims

Ruling likely ends decade of litigation over deadly blast

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

The state Supreme Court may have closed a decade of litigation over responsibility for the Kleen Energy gas plant explosion with a decision that absolves the plant owner and its administrative agent of negligence and liability for the construction accident that killed six and injured 27 more.

It is the second loss at the state's high court for the workers and families of workers seeking compensation for serious injury and death when an explosion heard for 30 miles destroyed the gas-powered, electric generation plant on the Connecticut River in Middletown in February 2010, just as construction was being completed.

Lawyers following the case said the court's little-noticed decision, released late on Dec. 30, probably forecloses whatever hope remains among members of the construction crew for further compensation. A few negligence claims remain in a lower court and could be pressed, but the likelihood of success is slim, they said.

"Although we respect the Supreme Court's decision, on behalf of our clients, we are deeply disappointed by the result," said Hartford attorney James Healy, who brought the most recent case with attorney Joel Faxon on behalf of several victims and families. "We will continue reviewing the decision and assessing our next steps going forward. As always, our thoughts remain with the victims and families affected by this tragic explosion."

Those victims sued Kleen Energy Systems, the local partnership that owns and built the plant, and Power Plant Management Services, Kleen's administrative agent, for strict liability and negligence associated with a "gas blow" — a late-stage construction process during which natural gas is forced through thousands of feet of piping at extraordinary pressure to clear the lines of construction debris.

Years of post-mortems on the explosion agree that the gas blow was the cause of the explosion that shattered windows and cracked foundations of houses for miles around. There were 2,000 feet of piping to be cleared at the

Turn to Blast, Page 3

Connecticut officials say riot, aftermath underlines nation divided by politics

By Daniela Altimari
Hartford Courant

For Republican Larry Lazor, a candidate for the Republican nomination in the 1st Congressional District, the brutal attack by an angry mob of Donald Trump supporters on the U.S. Capitol was "a blow to our democracy."

Lazor's view, however, is at odds with his own party here and around the nation. Republicans continue to grapple with the repercussions of the violence that unfolded on Jan. 6, 2021. Hundreds of people were injured and five were killed.

"We're on the wrong side if we think the 2020 election wasn't fair," said Lazor, a West Hartford physician. Over the last year, state Republican leaders expressed their horror at the attack and denounced Trump's efforts to undermine democracy. But they have also sought to shift the focus away from the former president and any role he played in fomenting the mob of aggrieved supporters who vandalized the building and violently clashed with police.

Turn to Divide, Page 3

Universities delay student return amid omicron surge

Several Connecticut colleges and universities are delaying the return of students and moving early spring classes online as COVID-19 cases reach record highs. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

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FROM PAGE ONE

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

West Hartford reissues indoor mask mandate

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

The town of West Hartford is reinstating a universal indoor mask mandate, effective beginning at noon Thursday, officials announced Wednesday.

West Hartford joins Bloomfield, Hartford and New Haven as municipalities with mask mandates as communities move to combat the omicron-driven backslide in the state's fight against COVID-19. Twenty-four percent of tests came back positive on Tuesday, breaking Monday's record, while the state's seven-day positivity rate has surged above 20% for the first time in the pandemic.

"Our priority is to keep our community safe, while keeping schools, municipal

facilities, and businesses open," Mayor Shari Cantor said in a statement. "We believe this step is necessary given the current trajectory of infection rates and the number of neighboring communities implementing similar requirements."

Cantor went even further, calling on Gov. Ned Lamont to implement a statewide indoor mask mandate.

"COVID-19 does not stop at municipal borders. Our hospitals and health care delivery systems are all regional assets that serve multiple communities," she said. "There should be one common statewide and regional standard."

West Hartford's previous indoor mask mandate, which lasted for about two months, was lifted on Oct. 22, 2021 after four weeks of

declining COVID-19 cases.

The case rate was 7.8 per 100,000 — classified as low-level community transmission by the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Those numbers are a far cry from the current situation facing the town, where the case rate was 75.7 per 100,000 in the weeks preceding Christmas, according to the most recent state data.

Cantor, a Democrat, joins several other Democratic elected officials who have started to scrutinize Lamont's intransigence toward a statewide dictum regarding masks.

On Wednesday, leaders from East Hartford, South Windsor, Manchester and Windsor Locks also called for a statewide mask

mandate — but refrained from implementing their own local mandates, instead encouraging mask-wearing inside businesses.

"Each of our communities are providing KN95 masks to any resident or business who requests them," East Hartford officials wrote in a statement.

Under Executive Order No. 13A, in effect through Feb. 15, Lamont has granted cities and towns the authority to implement their own requirements regarding masks or facial covering.

But he's stopped short of implementing a statewide mandate, repeatedly insisting that most Connecticut residents were following safe practices on their own.

"I don't want to put a lot of counter-pressures on and rebellion and people fight-

ing back against it," Lamont said at a press conference in Stamford Monday. "I prefer that everybody wear the mask when you're indoors. We're getting N95 masks available to anybody, no questions asked. I think we're on the right track right now."

While town officials did not give an end date for the measure, Cantor said it was intended to be temporary. Hartford's mask mandate is only in effect through the end of January, subject to how case numbers change.

Officials "will constantly evaluate the need to continue the requirement," Cantor said.

West Hartford will permit either masks or cloth facial coverings. On Tuesday, town officials and volunteers distributed 230,000 N95 masks — seen by health

experts as the most effective at stopping the spread of COVID-19, but generally not intended for children.

The order applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. People who are unable to wear a mask for medical reasons will be exempt from the mandate, as well as those under the age of 2. Masks will not be required while eating or drinking.

"Our approach has been, and continues to be, education first, enforcement second," Matt Hart, West Hartford town manager, said in a statement. "We are very appreciative of the high level of voluntary compliance we are already seeing."

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com

Hospitals

from Page 1

highest in departmental history in the past week. In response, the department has built a trailer outside of the department to expand care for COVID-19 patients, as well as other hospital areas.

That surge in demand is tempered by the fact that omicron, though intensely transmissible, often runs a mild course in vaccinated individuals. Silver noted that neither the overall acuity nor the hospital admission rate of patients in the emergency department have spiked.

"Many of the patients that are coming in with this wave we're able to treat and transition home safely," she said.

The current wave of COVID-19, driven by the omicron variant, is even more infectious than the first wave of the pandemic in spring 2020 and the second



A youngster gets his first COVID-19 vaccine at a free clinic at the Discovery Science Center in Bridgeport. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

wave last year, which was characterized by the delta variant, Beckman said.

At Yale New Haven, patient volumes "never really went down" given that those who had delayed care began appearing when COVID-19 cases dropped, she added. But the average length of stay for COVID-19 patients with the omicron variant is about three days

less than it was for those with the delta variant, reflecting a diminished severity of illness, particularly for those who are vaccinated.

"Most of the patients requiring the highest level of care, generally intensive care, are unvaccinated patients and patients who have underlying, severe immunocompromised

conditions," she said. "That subset of people might have been vaccinated and even boosted, but their underlying illness just set them up to have an unfavorable outcome."

Cases and positivity rate

Connecticut reported 10,344 new COVID-19 cases Wednesday out of 45,760 tests administered, for a daily positivity rate of 22.6%, a slight decrease from Tuesday's rate of 24% but still among the highest daily testing positivity rates Connecticut has seen since widespread testing began.

All eight Connecticut counties — along with nearly the rest of the country — are currently recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises

people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations

As of Wednesday, Connecticut has 1,676 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, up 114 since Tuesday and the most the state has seen since April 29, 2020.

Keith Grant, Hartford HealthCare's senior system director for infection prevention, said that according to recent data, there are no patients in the health system's ICU who have received a COVID-19 booster shot.

Deaths

Connecticut reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state recorded 83 deaths, bringing its total during the pandemic to 9,160.

As COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have surged in Connecticut over recent

weeks, deaths have risen but still remain far below the levels recorded last winter.

The United States has now recorded 830,788 COVID-19 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations

As of Wednesday, 89.3% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 74.9% of all residents and 83.8% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, about 43.7% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

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LOTTERY
Wednesday, Jan. 5

| | |
|--|--|
| PLAY3 DAY 8 0 3 WB: 7 | PLAY4 DAY 1 5 7 9 WB: 0 |
|--|--|

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

TUESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

| | |
|--|--|
| PLAY3 NIGHT 8 9 6 WB: 3 | PLAY4 NIGHT 9 5 2 1 WB: 3 |
|--|--|

CASH 5
3 27 31 32 35

LUCKY FOR LIFE
7 8 13 29 40 **LB:** 3

LOTTO
18 20 21 29 36 41

MEGA MILLIONS
4 6 16 21 22 **MB:** 1 **MP:** 3

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1/8 MET Opera in HD: Cinderella
On the Kate's Big Screen. Laurent Pelly's story-book staging of Massenet's Cendrillon, a hit of the 2017-18 season, is presented with an all-new English translation in an abridged 90 minutes.

1/13 The Brit Pack with Matt Nakoa
A journey through a dynamic blend of British classics known and loved by all, including The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Queen, David Bowie, Elton John, The Who, Oasis, Radiohead, The Police, Amy Winehouse and many more.

1/14 Rock this Town Orchestra
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1/15 The Hit Men
the real guys who performed with legendary artists- The Hit Men: Classic Rock Supergroup.

1/27 Griffin House
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TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

FROM PAGE ONE

Lamont has hip replacement surgery; recovering at home

By Rick Green
Hartford Courant

Gov. Ned Lamont had a second hip replacement Wednesday morning and is resting comfortably, his office said.

Lamont, who just turned 68, had a hip replacement nearly a year ago, on Jan. 13. A Lamont spokesman did not say which hip was replaced on Wednesday.

“This morning, Governor Lamont underwent hip replace-

ment surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Stamford and he is currently recovering at home,” said Max Reiss, a spokesman for Lamont. Lamont will work out of his Greenwich residence for the next few days, Reiss said.

“The surgery is very similar to the one he experienced just about one year ago, however it was on the opposite hip. His medical team says that he is on track for a speedy recovery, and over the next couple of days he plans to rest at home

while working remotely,” Reiss said.

Hip replacement is one of the most common surgeries for middle aged and older Americans. There were nearly 448,000 hip replacements in 2017, according to the Wall Street Journal.

State Capitol closing 2 days a week due to virus-related shortages

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

With the omicron virus spreading, officials have decided to close the state Capitol on Wednesdays and Fridays.

House Speaker Matt Ritter and House Republican leader Vincent Candelora said that a wide variety of workers have recently become ill with the virus, including Capitol police officers.

“The Capitol police have multiple — I would say more than 10 — officers who are out with COVID,” Ritter said Wednesday. “They do not have the manpower right now to handle a normal workload.

They just don’t have enough officers. The request from our Capitol police was to shut it down two days a week so they could make sure that their officers can recover and get back — and those who are healthy don’t have to work five days in a row.”

Ritter added, “For me, and it sounds like for Vinny as well, it was an easy decision.”

With reduced staffing levels, legislators decided to close the building on those two days.

Since the Capitol has already been operating at reduced capacity, Candelora said the impact will be minimal.

“We’ve had to make adjust-

ments over the next several weeks like everyone else,” Candelora said Wednesday in an interview. “The practical point of this is it’s going to have no impact on the public. But we’re seeing staff and members [of the legislature] getting sick and having to quarantine, so they’re not coming in for the entire week. But they can still work from home. ... We’ll make the best that we can of it.”

Both legislators and staff can bring their laptop computers and work from home.

“For businesses like a hospital or a school, where you need to have the people present in person in order to do their job, I’m very

sympathetic to the issues that they’re facing,” Candelora said.

Lawmakers are still making final preparations for the regular legislative session, which starts on Feb. 9 and ends in early May.

“Hopefully, a month from now, things look a lot better,” Ritter said.

Gov. Ned Lamont traditionally delivers the State of the State Address on opening day, but that speech was made virtually in 2021.

“It’s frustrating, but we have to react to reality,” Ritter said. “And the reality is we do not have enough police officers to really have a fully functioning state Capitol right now. It’s a 24-7 complex.”

Blast

from Page 1

plant and the blow was to be done over two days in stages that corresponded to eight discharge nozzles.

According to the unanimous Supreme Court decision, written by Justice Andrew McDonald, more than three-quarters of the piping had been cleared by Feb. 7, 2010, through nozzles that had been aimed vertically to vent the pressurized gas up, without obstruction, for disbursement in the atmosphere.

During one of the final gas blows late in the morning of Feb. 7, a discharge nozzle was directed horizontally, pumping an enormous quantity of gas into a courtyard substantially enclosed by buildings and power generation equipment, including propane heaters. Four small metal pipes also were also in the path of the welding slag and other debris blown from the nozzle at high velocity with the gas.

Divide

from Page 1

Ben Proto, chairman of the Connecticut Republican Party, called Jan. 6 “a dark day in our history.”

Proto rejects the lie that Biden’s victory is illegitimate and the election was stolen from Trump: “Joe Biden was elected President of the United States,” he declared.

But Proto, who led Donald Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign in Connecticut, said blame for the attack ultimately falls on both parties, even though it was the soon-to-be former president who encouraged his supporters to “fight like hell” at a rally just before they stormed the Capitol.



Capitol police confront a mob on Jan. 6, 2021, incited by then-President Donald Trump in an attempt to stop the certification of the Joe Biden’s presidential election. ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Connecticut Republicans who were not part of the mob bear no responsibility for the tragedy, Proto said. “To say that a Republican in Connecticut is somehow part of what happened in Jan. 6 is like saying a Democrat in Connecticut is part of what happened in [Portland, Ore.] when [protesters] closed off and took over an entire area,” he said.

Dozens, if not hundreds of Connecticut residents attended Trump’s Stop the Steal Rally before the Capitol assault. Among them was Mary Ann Turner, a longtime Republican activist from Enfield and the vice-chairwoman of the state Republican Party. She declined a request to be interviewed on Wednesday.

“Jan. 6” Proto said, was “the culmination of a lot of things. People feeling like they’re not being heard, they’re not being listened to and their needs are being put behind those of the power brokers ... the

more fuses you light, eventually a bomb goes off.”

Sen. Chris Murphy, a Democrat, said Republicans have to reconcile their support of Trump with the strike against democracy that unfolded on Jan. 6.

“The Trump infection inside the Republican Party is less acute in Connecticut than in other states, but it’s still serious,” Murphy said. “I’m glad that there are still a lot of Republicans in Connecticut that acknowledged Joe Biden won the election and agree that what happened on Jan. 6 of last year was an abomination, but my fear is eventually even in Connecticut, the Trump Republicans will fully take over the party’s infrastructure, as has happened in most other states.”

Trump retains a hold on the Republican Party, even in a blue state such as Connecticut, said Jonathan Wharton, a political scientist at Southern Connecticut State University and the former

GOP chairman in New Haven.

“Certainly it’s no secret that the majority of the people involved in the state and local races and campaigns and the party are Trump supporters,” Wharton said. “There’s no surprise about that. For some of them, they’re supportive of Jan 6 because in their minds they see this as a turning point, a moment where some changes had to take place, even if they were symbolic, even if it was disruptive.”

Wharton said he’s received post-Jan. 6 pushback from friends and family members to leave the party. He’s staying, although he said he has pulled back from national politics to focus primarily on state and local races.

“I’m not expecting the national party to address the issue or make amends or reform itself,” Wharton said.

The divisions of the Trump era continue to define politics, a year after Trump left the White House. (Booted off social media platforms,

the former president sent out an email blast Wednesday accusing Democrats of using the Jan. 6 attack to stoke dissent.)

Themis Klarides, the former Republican leader in the Connecticut House of Representatives and a potential candidate for governor, also denounced what she called a “horrific incident.” But Klarides said she does not view the attack through a political lens.

“If you’re a Republican, you denounce what happened. If you’re a Democrat, you denounce what happened,” Klarides said. “Going forward, we are in very serious turmoil with regard to where we are in Connecticut ... this isn’t a state people can afford to live in and that’s the focus going forward.”

Bob Stefanowski, a Republican from Madison who was the party’s 2018 gubernatorial nominee and is considering another run, said he is putting his faith in the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, which are investigating the assault.

“A year later I feel the same way as I did when it happened,” Stefanowski said. “Acts of violence like this are absolutely unacceptable.”

Rep. Jim Himes, a Democrat from Connecticut’s 4th District, was one of the last members of Congress to leave the House chamber after police cleared out the insurrectionists.

“Our democracy was never going to collapse because Viking horn guy sits in the president of the Senate’s seat,” Himes said. “I don’t have PTSD about Jan. 6, but I have huge trepidation for our democratic republic because of the lock, stock and barrel commitment of the Republican Party to make sure the next time the coup works.”

Investigators determined that, before the explosion, enough gas had been pumped into the courtyard to fill a basketball arena and power a typical home every day for 25 years

“After the debris was expelled from the discharge nozzle, it struck the small metal pipes located in the courtyard, acquiring heat from the glancing blow,” the court said in its decision. “The heated debris was then carried by the discharge exhaust into the partially enclosed area, where natural gas had been trapped from the prior gas blow. The heated debris ignited the accumulated natural gas and oxygen.”

The Supreme Court rejected the victims’ argument that Kleen and its administrative agent, were “strictly liable” for the gas blow, even if not directly involved, because the process was an unusually dangerous operation carried out by their employee, the general contractor, O&G Industries.

There was evidence before the court that gas blows had been common practice in power plant construction since World War II and were used in 60% to 70% of gas power plants built over the last 25 years. There was an effort by one regulatory agency to ban gas blows following the Kleen explosion, but it was overruled.

The victims had sued O&G years earlier, but lost that case at the state Supreme Court. The court concluded that O&G was immune from the suit because it had paid worker’s compensation benefits to the victims under state law that established it as a principal employer.

The court also rejected the victim’s argument that Kleen and its agent were vicariously negligent because they had control over the gas blow. The victims made two additional negligence claims that the court declined to consider.

John W. Bradley Jr., part of the legal team from Hartford’s Rome McGuigan that represented Kleen, said he was gratified by the decision.

“This tragic accident was entirely the fault of the contractors who were building the power plant and who were paid over \$760 million dollars to do so. We are proud to have been able to secure this result for our client,” he said.

A message seeking comment was left with O&G.

Victims of the explosion have been compensated in other ways over the last decade. There were mediated settlements, workers comp payments and agreements with subcontractors on the project.

Trauma

from Page 1

they forgot about us.”

Bound together by circumstance, sharing a trauma uniquely their own, the lawmakers were both the witnesses and the victims of an unprecedented assault on American democracy. Along with a small number of staffers and members of the media, they remained in the chamber as Capitol Police strained to hold back the mob of supporters of then-President Donald Trump who were stoked on his lies about election fraud.

The lawmakers were finally taken to safety roughly an hour after the siege began.

Interviewed before this week’s anniversary of the attack, House members who were in the gallery talked of being deeply shaken by their experience.

Vividly they remember the loud, hornlike buzz of their gas masks. The explosive crack of tear gas in the hallways outside. The screams of officers telling them to stay down. The thunderous beating on the doors below.

Most indelibly, the loud clap of a gunshot, reverberating across the cavernous chamber.

“I’ve heard a lot of gunshots in my time, and it was very clear what that was,” Crow said. “I knew that things had severely escalated.”

The shot was fired by Officer Michael Byrd and killed Ashli Babbitt, a Trump supporter trying to crawl through the broken window of a door that leads to the House chamber. Both the Justice Department and Capitol Police investigated the shooting and declined to file charges.

Their terror was compounded by knowledge of what the mob was after: stopping Congress from certifying the Electoral College votes that would make Joe Biden the 46th president.

Rep. Val Demings, D-Fla., was among those sheltering in the gallery. The former police chief in Orlando shuddered when police said there had been a “breach” of the building.

“I knew that meant that the police had somehow lost the line. And I also know, having been a former police officer, that they would have done everything in their power to hold that line to

protect us,” she said.

Demings said she told a colleague: “Just remember, we’re on the right side of history. If we all die today, another group will come in and certify those ballots.”

Congress reconvened that night, certifying Biden’s election victory before sunrise.

In the days after the attack, many of the lawmakers who were in the gallery started connecting on a text message chain. It quickly evolved into therapeutic group sessions and even potluck gatherings where they tried to make sense of it all. They dubbed themselves “the gallery group,” and the name stuck.

Many went on to seek therapy. Some were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress, their struggles exacerbated by the raw tensions on Capitol Hill and an increasing number of death threats.

Others said they have been more traumatized by the growing tendency among Republican lawmakers, and some in the public, to downplay or ignore the violence than they were by the attack itself.

Rep. Annie Kuster, who sought treatment for post-traumatic

stress, says the gallery group connects almost daily on the text message chain.

Kuster, D-N.H., was one of the first to be let out of the gallery Jan. 6, escaping through the doors along with three other members just before the remaining lawmakers were locked inside. When Kuster’s group reached the hallway, a group of rioters was rushing toward them.

“We ducked into the elevator,” Kuster said. “And I said to this incredible policeman — I said, ‘Oh, my God, what if the elevator doors open, and they kill us?’ And I will never forget this moment ... he said, ‘Ma’am, I am here to protect you.’ And he was there to protect our democracy.”

Eventually, Capitol Police determined the upstairs area was clear, even as insurrectionists kept trying to break through the doors below. The lawmakers and others were rushed out of the chamber and down a warren of staircases and hallways. When they left, they could see police officers holding five or six rioters flat on the ground, guns pointed at their heads.

The rioters were inches from the doors of the gallery.

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JAN. 6 INSURRECTION ONE YEAR LATER

Hard year for 10 House Republicans

Lawmakers paying a price after voting to impeach Trump

By Jonathan Weisman and Luke Broadwater
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The 10 House Republicans who voted to impeach Donald Trump did so with the same conviction — that a president of their party deserved to be charged with inciting insurrection Jan. 6, 2021 — and the same hope — that his role in doing so would finally persuade the GOP to repudiate him.

But in the year since the deadliest attack on the Capitol in centuries, none of the 10 lawmakers have been able to avoid the consequences of a fundamental miscalculation about the direction of their party. The former president is very much the leader of the Republicans, and it is those who stood against him whom the party has thrust into the role of pariah.

Since they cast their impeachment votes Jan. 13, Reps. Anthony Gonzalez of Ohio and Adam Kinzinger of Illinois have announced their retirements amid death threats from voters and hostility from colleagues. Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming has gone from a star in the House Republican leadership to an exiled party gadfly and truth teller.

Reps. Jaime Herrera Beutler of Washington, Peter Meijer of Michigan and Fred Upton of Michigan have Trump-endorsed primary challengers on their heels and uncertain political futures. Four others — John Katko of New York, Dan



GOP lawmakers attend a joint session of Congress to confirm the Electoral College vote. ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2021

Newhouse of Washington, Tom Rice of South Carolina and David Valadao of California — have stayed silent in the apparent hope that the entire episode will be forgotten.

The fate of the 10 over the past year has offered a bracing reality check about the nature of today's Republican Party, one that has fully embraced the lie of a stolen election and its main purveyor, and sidelined the few remaining members who have dared to publicly question Trump or his actions.

"There's been this waiting game and an arbitrage between an individual's political future and the trajectory of that

guy, assuming the apex has passed," Meijer said, referring to Trump. "The view among some was that this would be essentially a self-correcting issue" and that Trump's power would fade.

"I think that's proven overly optimistic," Meijer added.

The 10 could be forgiven for believing that their votes last January would not leave them so exposed.

In the immediate aftermath of the Capitol riot, some of Trump's most stalwart allies quit the government in disgust.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California, the House Republican leader, voted against impeachment

but declared, "The president bears responsibility for Wednesday's attack on Congress by mob rioters."

The Senate Republican leader, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, orchestrated Trump's acquittal after a hasty Senate impeachment trial. But he had let it be known that he considered the president culpable and said as much in a scathing speech afterward: "There's no question — none — that President Trump is practically and morally responsible for provoking the events of the day."

But the rhetorical cover fire proved as ephemeral as it was useless.

Gonzalez, deluged with threats and fearing for the

safety of his wife and children, announced in September that he would not seek reelection — and called Trump "a cancer for the country."

Kinzinger, who announced his retirement in October, has faced similar threats. But he has turned his opposition to Trump into a capstone of his career, defying Republican leaders to join the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack.

"The 2020 election was not stolen," he said in a video message Wednesday for the anniversary of Jan. 6. "Joe Biden won, and Donald Trump lost. We have to admit it. But the leadership of the Republi-

can Party won't. They lied to the American people and continue to ... echo the conspiracy theories that line their pockets."

None of the 10 have fallen in the Republican firmament as Cheney nor risen so high in the esteem of many in both parties who fear and loathe Trump. The daughter of a former vice president who was once the embodiment of confrontational conservatism, for better or worse, Cheney started 2021 as the chair of the House Republican Conference, a political knife fighter believed by many to be destined for the speakership.

Her vote to impeach and her outspoken denunciations of the lie that the 2020 election was "stolen" cost her dearly. She was ousted from her leadership post, ejected from the Wyoming Republican Party and targeted repeatedly by the former president, who has tried to unite Wyoming voters around the primary opponent he has endorsed, Harriet Hageman.

Cheney has soldiered on, becoming vice chair of the House select committee investigating the riot.

Looking back, Cheney said that her fall from Republican leadership was inevitable as long as she had to share the stage with McCarthy, whose brief denunciation of Trump after Jan. 6 quickly gave way to a resumption of fealty.

"It was increasingly clear that staying as conference chair was going to require me to perpetuate the lie about the election," Cheney said. "I was simply not willing to look the other way and accept what he did."

US Capitol Police chief details security upgrades

Manger tells Senate panel of progress in wake of deadly riot

By Luke Broadwater
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — With officers still reeling from the mob violence that overran Congress a year ago, the chief of the U.S. Capitol Police told lawmakers Wednesday that his department was taking steps to address deficiencies laid bare by the attack and would implement more than 100 recommendations for improvement.

The chief, J. Thomas Manger, who took over the force in July, told the Senate Rules Committee that the Capitol Police were already addressing 90 of the agency inspector general's 103 recommendations. They include streamlining intelligence operations and purchasing needed equipment.

"We fully understand the need to restore confidence in our ability to fulfill our mission each day, no matter the circumstances," Manger said in written testimony to the committee, which last month heard critiques of the agency from the inspector general, Michael Bolton.

"The men and women of the U.S. Capitol Police proved their mettle on Jan. 6," Bolton told the committee that only about 30 of his recommendations had been implemented. Manger said another 60 were in progress, and that he had assigned an inspector to ensure that all of them are ultimately put in place.

The Capitol Police remain under strain a year after being overrun by a mob of Donald Trump supporters who stormed the building as Congress met to count electoral votes to formalize Joe Biden's victory in the presidential election. About 150 officers from the Capitol Police, Washington's Metropolitan Police Department and other local agencies were injured in the violence, including more than 80 from the Capitol Police alone.

Afterward, numerous failures by the agency were made clear, even as lingering grief, trauma and fear suffused its ranks. The failures included findings that managers had not equipped the force with enough riot gear or produced an adequate plan for a potential riot, and had ignored or overlooked intelligence reports warning of attacks on lawmakers.

Sen. Chuck Schumer,

D-N.Y., the majority leader, spoke at the hearing and praised the changes to the force. The top three officials in charge of security at the Capitol a year ago have all been replaced, and Congress has approved more than \$70 million for upgrades to the police force.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., chair of the Rules Committee, said she believed it was important for rank-and-file officers to hear that the agency was undertaking reforms.

"It's important for the officers who were protecting us on the front line — cuts on their faces, losing their friends and colleagues to suicide — to hear about the progress that's been made as well and some of the improvements in morale," Klobuchar said.

Manger said the agency encountered more than 9,000 threats last year, an increase from previous years, requiring a heightened workload.

Manger said the force had made key new hires and planned to ramp up recruitment efforts, including setting a goal of hiring 280 new officers each year for the next three years, as well as quickly bringing in other security workers under contract to free up



U.S. Capitol Police Chief J. Thomas Manger is sworn in Wednesday during a Senate committee hearing on changes at the agency after last year's deadly riot. ELIZABETH FRANTZ/POOL VIA AP

sworn officers.

He also outlined other improvements, including making enhancements to the way the department gathers and shares intelligence and beefing up the Civil Disturbance Unit.

He added that the force had prepared a 25-page security plan for Thursday's anniversary of the Jan. 6 attack.

A Department of Homeland Security intelligence analysis from Dec. 30 concluded that "threat actors will try to exploit the upcoming anniversary of the

6 January 2021 breach of the U.S. Capitol to promote or possibly commit violence, but we currently lack reporting on a specific or credible threat."

The report said the "mostly likely threat of violence surrounding the 6 January anniversary stems from lone offenders seeking to target perceived ideological opponents, political symbols or law enforcement."

Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., the top Republican on the committee, highlighted legislation Congress passed

last year to make it possible for the Capitol Police chief to unilaterally request the assistance of the National Guard. He said that and similar reforms were needed to better protect the police officers who were overrun during the Capitol attack.

"These officers were the true heroes of Jan. 6," Blunt said.

Manger's testimony came a day after three police officers injured in the attack filed two separate federal lawsuits seeking to hold Trump accountable for the violence.



The Grammy Awards will not be held on Jan. 31 in California due to the omicron variant. CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP 2021

Grammys postpone ceremony, citing omicron variant risks

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Grammy Awards were postponed Wednesday due to what organizers called "too many risks" due to the omicron variant. No new date has been announced.

The ceremony had been scheduled for Jan. 31 in Los Angeles with a live audience and performances. The Recording Academy said it made the decision to postpone the ceremony "after careful consideration and

analysis with city and state officials, health and safety experts, the artist community and our many partners."

"Given the uncertainty surrounding the omicron variant, holding the show on January 31st simply contains too many risks," the academy said in a statement.

Last year, like most major awards shows in early 2021, the Grammys were postponed due to coronavirus concerns. The show was moved from late January to mid-March and held with a

spare audience made up of mostly nominees and their guests in and around the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Many performances were pre-taped, and none were in front of significant crowds.

The Grammys had been scheduled this year to return to its traditional home next door, the Crypto.com Arena, formerly Staples Center.

"We look forward to celebrating Music's Biggest Night on a future date, which will be announced soon," the academy state-

ment said.

Finding a suitable date could be complicated, with three professional sports teams occupying the arena. The Recording Academy made no mention of a possible venue change in its statement.

The move was announced around the same time the Sundance Film Festival canceled its in-person programming set to begin Jan. 20 and shifted to an online format.

Jon Batiste is the lead-

ing nominee for this year's honors, grabbing 11 nods in a variety of genres including R&B, jazz, American roots music, classical and music video. Justin Bieber, Doja Cat and H.E.R. are tied for the second-most nominations with eight apiece.

The Grammys' move could be the beginning of another round of award-show rescheduling, with the Screen Actors Guild Awards planned for February and the Academy Awards for March.

WORLD & NATION



People console each other near the scene of a fire that killed 13 people, including seven children, on Wednesday morning in the Fairmount section of Philadelphia. **MATT ROURKE/AP**

13 dead, including 7 children, in Philadelphia duplex fire

By Ron Todd and Claudia Lauer
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Fire tore through a duplex home early Wednesday in Philadelphia, killing 13 people, including seven children, fire officials said. At least two people were sent to hospitals, and officials warned the toll could grow as firefighters searched the rowhome, where 26 people had been staying.

The four smoke alarms in the building, which was public housing, do not appear to have been working, fire officials said. The blaze's cause was not determined. Officials were shaken by the death toll — apparently the highest in a single fire in the city in at least a century.

"I knew some of those kids," said Dannie McGuire, 34, fighting back tears as she and Martin Burgert, 35, stood in the doorway of a home around the corner.

Officials did not release the names or ages of those killed in the blaze, which started before 6:30 a.m. As many as eight residents appear to have been able to escape the fire, which

burned in the Fairmount neighborhood.

Streets around the fire scene remained blocked off in midafternoon as investigators worked. Onlookers and neighbors had largely migrated to a nearby elementary school, where relatives and friends of the home's residents gathered to wait for news.

A small group of people, some wrapped in Salvation Army blankets, stared down the street where the blaze happened, hugging one another and crying. Several friends of the children stopped by the school, hoping for information.

Officials held a news conference earlier in the day, near the fire scene.

"I've been around for 35 years now and this is probably one of the worst fires I have ever been to," said Craig Murphy, first deputy fire commissioner.

"Losing so many kids is just devastating," added Mayor Jim Kenney. "Keep these babies in your prayers."

Crews responded around 6:40 a.m. and saw flames shooting from the second-floor front windows in an area believed to be a

kitchen, Murphy said. The odd configuration of the building — originally a single-family home that had been split into two apartments — made it difficult to navigate, he said. Crews brought it under control in less than an hour, he said. There were 18 people staying in the upstairs apartment on the second and third floors, and eight staying in the downstairs apartment, which included the first floor and part of the second floor, Murphy said.

A spokesperson for Philadelphia's Department of Licenses and Inspections said the city does not limit the number of family members who can stay in a single unit. And the mayor said people should withhold judgment.

"You don't know the circumstances of each and every family, and maybe there were relatives and family that needed to be sheltered," Kenney said.

The alarms had been inspected annually, and at least two had been replaced in 2020, with batteries replaced in the others at that time, Philadelphia Housing Authority officials said.

CDC advisers endorse Pfizer boosters for younger teens

By Lauran Neergaard and Mike Stobbe
Associated Press

Influential government advisers are strongly urging that teens as young as 12 get COVID-19 boosters as soon as they're eligible, a key move as the U.S. battles the omicron surge and schools struggle with how to restart classes amid the spike.

All Americans 16 and older are encouraged to get a booster, which health authorities say offer the best chance at avoiding the highly contagious omicron variant. Earlier this week, the Food and Drug Administration authorized an extra Pfizer shot for kids ages 12 to 15 as well — but that wasn't the final hurdle.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention makes recommendations for vaccinations and on Wednesday, its advisers voted that a booster was safe for the younger teens and should be offered to them once enough time — five months — has passed since their last shot. And while the CDC last month opened boosters as an option for 16- and 17-year-olds, the panel said that recommendation should be strengthened to say they "should" get the extra dose.

The CDC's director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, will weigh the panel's advice before making a final decision soon.

Vaccines still offer strong protection against serious illness from any type of COVID-19, including the highly contagious omicron variant, especially after a booster. But omicron can slip past a layer of the vaccines' protection to cause breakthrough infections.

Studies show a booster dose at least temporarily revs up virus-fighting antibodies to levels that offer the best chance at avoiding symptomatic infection, even from omicron.



Oliver Barr, 13, gets a COVID-19 vaccine from Karina Cisneros last May in Los Angeles. Advisers have recommended boosters for younger teens. **FREDERIC J. BROWN/GETTY-AFP**

Fending off even a mild infection is harder for vaccines to do than protecting against serious illness so giving teens a booster for that temporary jump in protection is like playing whack-a-mole, cautioned Dr. Sarah Long of Drexel University. But she said the extra shot was worth it given how hugely contagious the omicron mutant is, and how many kids are catching it.

More important, if a child with a mild infection spread it to a more vulnerable parent or grandparent who then dies, the impact "is absolutely crushing," said Dr. Camille Kotton of Massachusetts General Hospital.

The vaccine made by Pfizer and its partner BioNTech is the only option for American children of any age.

About 13.5 million children ages 12 to 17 have received two Pfizer shots, according to the CDC. Boosters were opened to 16- and 17-year-olds last month.

The CDC's advisers were swayed by real-world U.S. data showing that symptomatic COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are between seven and 11 times higher in unvaccinated adolescents than vaccinated ones.

If the CDC agrees, about 5 million of the younger teens,

those 12 to 15, would be eligible for a booster right away because they got their last shot at least five months ago.

Children tend to suffer less serious illness from COVID-19 than adults. But child hospitalizations are rising during the omicron wave — the vast majority of them unvaccinated.

During the public comment part of Wednesday's meeting, Dr. Julie Boom of Texas Children's Hospital said a booster recommendation for younger teens "cannot come soon enough."

The chief safety question for adolescents is a rare side effect called myocarditis, a type of heart inflammation seen mostly in younger men and teen boys who get either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. The vast majority of cases are mild — far milder than the heart inflammation COVID-19 can cause — and seem to peak in older teens.

The FDA decided a booster dose was as safe for the younger teens based largely on data from 6,300 12- to 15-year-olds in Israel who got a Pfizer booster five months after their second dose. Israeli officials said Wednesday that they've seen two cases of mild myocarditis in this age group after giving more boosters, 40,000.

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WORLD & NATION

Chinese city struggles in lockdown

Food harder to get as 13 million stuck at home in Xi'an

By Ken Moritsugu
Associated Press

BEIJING — Residents of the Chinese city of Xi'an are enduring a strict coronavirus lockdown, with business owners suffering yet more closures and some people complaining of difficulties finding food, despite assurances from authorities that they are able to provide necessities for the 13 million people largely confined to their homes.

Stringent measures to stem outbreaks are common in China, which still maintains a policy of stamping out every COVID-19 case long after many other countries have opted to try to live with the virus. But the lockdown imposed Dec. 23 in Xi'an is one of the harshest in the country since a shut-down in 2020 in and around Wuhan, after the coronavirus was first detected there.

This week, authorities announced that another city, Yuzhou in Henan province, was placed under lockdown over the weekend after the discovery of just three asymptomatic cases.

The Chinese have largely complied with the tough measures throughout the pandemic, but complaints have cropped up over tough policies, despite the risk of retaliation from Communist authorities. The Xi'an lockdown, however, comes at a particularly sensitive time, as China prepares to hold the Beijing Winter Olympics, which open Feb. 4, and therefore is under especially intense pressure to contain this outbreak.

"Can't leave the building, and it's getting more and more difficult to buy food online," said one resident of Xi'an, who posted on the social media platform Weibo under the name Mu Qingyuan Sayno. The post was from a verified account, but the person did not respond to a request for further comment.

Zhang Canyou, an expert with the State Council's epidemic prevention and control team, conceded that "there may be supply pressure in communities."

But he was quoted by the official Xinhua news agency as also saying: "The government will go all-out to coordinate resources to provide



Residents shop for food at a temporary store Monday in Xi'an, a city under lockdown in China's Shaanxi province. CHINATOPIX

people with daily necessities and medical services."

The lockdown in Xi'an originally allowed people to leave the house every two days to shop for basic goods, but it has since been tightened, though the rules vary according to the severity of the outbreak in each district. Some people are not allowed to go out at all and must have goods delivered to them. People can only leave the city with special permission.

In recent days, people in Xi'an could be seen shopping at pop-up markets, served by workers in head-to-toe white protective suits. Community volunteers also visited people's homes to ask what they needed.

Yet the strain is beginning to show, with residents increasingly complaining on Weibo of being unable to source necessities. In one widely shared video, guards could be seen attacking a man who had tried to deliver steamed buns to family members. The guards later apologized to the man and were each fined 200 yuan, or about \$30, according to a Xi'an police statement

posted on Weibo.

In an online diary on the popular Weixin site, a Xi'an-based writer said that following an initial wave of panic-buying and the closure of markets, residents soon began searching for food online.

"In this age of material surplus, when everyone is trying to lose weight, finding enough to eat has suddenly become a difficult task," Jiang Xue wrote. A message sent to the account was not immediately returned.

China's "zero tolerance" strategy of quarantining every case, mass testing and trying to block new infections from abroad helped it to contain previous outbreaks. But the lockdowns are far more stringent than anything seen in the West, and they have exacted a tremendous toll on the economy and the lives of millions of people.

The measures often fall into place after just a few cases are identified, as was seen in Yuzhou. Since the rules were imposed there Sunday, residents have been allowed to return to the city

of 1.7 million but are not permitted to leave and must isolate at home. Only emergency vehicles are allowed on city roads. Restaurants, sports facilities and a wide range of other businesses have been ordered to shut, while markets can only offer basic necessities, an order from the city government said.

Meanwhile, Xi'an, home to the famed Terracotta Army statues along with major industries, has seen more than 1,600 cases in a surge that officials say is driven by the delta variant, which is less infectious than the newer omicron strain, of which China has reported only a handful of cases. Another 95 infections were announced Tuesday.

China has reported a total of 102,841 cases and 4,636 deaths since the pandemic began. While those numbers are relatively small compared to the U.S. and other countries, and likely undercounts as they are everywhere, they do show the persistence of the virus despite the sometimes draconian measures taken

by China.

A third round of mass testing has been ordered for Xi'an, which is capable of swabbing 10 million people in just seven hours and processing up to 3 million results in just 12 hours, according to state media.

While Wuhan's health care system was overwhelmed after the pandemic began there in late 2019, China has not reported any shortages of beds or medical equipment and staff in Xi'an. Two dozen special teams have been formed to deal with COVID-19 cases and a pair of hospitals have been set aside to provide other types of care, Xinhua reported.

China has vaccinated nearly 85% of its population, according to Our World in Data. The shots have helped reduce the severity of disease, although Chinese vaccines are considered less effective than used those elsewhere.

In a sign of the pressure authorities are under to curb this outbreak, officials have been put on notice that they will lose

their jobs if they don't bring the numbers of new cases down. Already, the top two Communist Party officials in Yanta district, where half the city's cases have been recorded, have been fired, according to a statement from the government of the surrounding province of Shaanxi.

The head of a tourism firm reached by phone said Tuesday that supplies were basically sufficient, but that his business had been suffering since July.

"Now with the lockdown, the effect has been extremely big," said the man, who gave just his surname, Wen, as is common among Chinese.

Qin Huilin, who works at a traditional mutton soup restaurant, said the lockdown brought business to a screeching halt.

"We used to have about a hundred customers every day, but we've had none for more than a dozen days since the lockdown," Qin said by phone. "The impact on our business is significant, but I can go shopping once every few days."

Many in GOP see attack on Capitol differently

Poll: Only about 4 in 10 call deadly Jan. 6 riot violent

By Farnoush Amiri
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The fighting — so primitive and ferocious that one Capitol Police officer described it as "medieval" and another as a "trip to hell" — left more than 100 law enforcement personnel injured, some beaten with their own weapons.

Video cameras captured the violence live, with rioters clubbing officers with flagpoles and fire extinguishers, even squeezing one between doors as he begged for his life.

Yet only about 4 in 10 Republicans recall the Jan. 6 attack by supporters of then-President Donald Trump as very violent or extremely violent, according to a new poll conducted Dec. 2-7 from Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

About 3 in 10 Republicans say the attack was not violent, and about another 3 in 10 say it was somewhat violent.

Their views were a distinct minority as overall about two-thirds of Americans described the day as very or extremely violent, including about 9 in 10 Democrats.

The findings reflect the country's political polarization, with a false portrayal of the siege taking hold despite extensive footage that shows

the ransacking of the building in harrowing detail. Trump and some allies in Congress and conservative media have played it down, falsely characterizing the attack as a minor civil disturbance.

It's a view that is shared by many Republicans, though few go so far as to defend the rioters themselves.

"My understanding was that a lot of it was pretty peaceful," Paul Bender, a self-described conservative from Cleveland, told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "I've seen some video of the people just like marching in through a velvet rope."

Bender, who said he didn't keep up with the news coverage, added, "There were certainly outlier people who were not peaceful and were breaking through the windows and stuff like that, but I wasn't aware of overt violence."

Meanwhile, the percentage of Americans who blame Trump for the Jan. 6 riot has grown slightly over the past year, with 57% saying he bears significant responsibility for what took place. In an AP-NORC poll taken in the days after the attack, 50% said that.

The uptick is seen among Republicans as well, even as relatively few think Trump bears significant responsibility. Twenty-two percent say that now, up from 11%

last year. Sixty percent say he had little to no responsibility.

"I don't believe that he actively was like promoting people to do anything other than a peaceful protest," Bender, 53, said. "However, once things got out of hand, I think that it would have been appropriate for him to have reacted sooner, whether that was a statement or going on the radio or TV or whatever."

The insurrection was the closing act of Trump's desperate effort to overturn his election loss to Joe Biden.

After Trump's baseless claims of voter fraud were soundly rejected in the courts, he shifted his focus to the Electoral College certification on Jan. 6, publicly pressuring then-Vice President Mike Pence to stop Congress from naming Biden the winner. Pence did not have that power under the law, as the vice president's function is largely ceremonial.

Trump promoted the Jan. 6 rally that preceded the attack, predicting it would be "wild," and in a speech that day urged his supporters to "fight like hell" as Congress convened to certify the election results.

The attack halted that process for hours as rioters occupied the building.

Still, while few Republicans blame Trump, Repub-



Rioters loyal to then-President Donald Trump rally Jan. 6, 2021, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington. The day later descended into chaos. JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

licans and Democrats alike overwhelmingly say that the individual rioters had a great deal or quite a bit of responsibility for their actions during the riot.

"I think there were strong supporters of President Trump that were there, but I think the people that caused the attacks might not have been true Trump supporters," said Mary Beth Bell of Jacksonville, Florida. "Because I know a lot of Trump supporters, and they see what happened on Jan. 6 as disgusting as I do."

About 7 in 10 Americans also say a House select committee should continue its investigation of the attack, while about 3 in 10 say it should not.

Robert Spry, a Democrat in Kingman, Arizona, said the congressional investigation is crucial for getting at the truth.

"We need a comprehensive report of that day. It has got to come to light what those people did to police and to that building," Spry said.

The 63-year-old, who used to vote Republican but now considers himself a conservative Democrat, said the protest-turned-attack appeared chaotic at first but the committee's findings are making it "more and more clear that it was planned in advance."

Forty-one percent of Republicans agree with Spry that Congress should

continue to investigate, while 58% say it should not.

Bell said a federal investigation into what she saw as "a terrorist attack" is appropriate, but she objects to the way the nine-member panel has been conducting the investigation since July of last year.

"They're not listening to all the information. I feel like it's one-sided more or less than trying to investigate everything," she said of the committee, composed of seven Democrats and two Republicans.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., chose all the members of the committee after rejecting the choices of House GOP leadership.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Garland vows anyone responsible for Jan. 6 to be held accountable

From news services

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Merrick Garland on Wednesday vowed to hold accountable anyone who was responsible for last year’s insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, whether they were physically there or not.

In a speech to Justice Department employees, Garland said prosecutors remained “committed to holding all January 6th perpetrators, at any level, accountable under law.”

Thursday marks the first anniversary of the attack on the Capitol. The Justice Department has faced increased pressure from some Democrats to focus more on actions that may have inspired the thousands of pro-Trump rioters to storm the building.

“We will follow the facts wherever they lead,” Garland said in his speech. “The actions we have taken thus far will not be our last.”

The investigation into the attack on the Capitol is the largest in the Justice Department’s history. So far, more than 700 people have been arrested and 350 others are still being sought by the FBI, including 250 of whom are accused of assaulting police officers.

Garland also detailed the serious assaults on law enforcement officers, describing in detail how officers were beaten and shocked with stun guns. During the riot, one officer was beaten and shocked with a stun gun repeatedly until he had a heart attack; another was foaming at the mouth and screaming for help as rioters crushed him between two doors and bashed him in the head with his own weapon.

Diplomats call out Russia: The United States and

Germany said Wednesday that Russia’s military buildup near Ukraine’s border poses an “immediate and urgent challenge” to European security and that any intervention will draw severe consequences.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock sought to present a unified front after a meeting in Washington.

“Both Germany and the United States see Russia’s actions toward Ukraine as an immediate and urgent challenge to peace and stability in Europe,” Blinken said.

The Blinken-Baerbock meeting followed a telephone call last week between President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin, a conversation Sunday between Biden and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and a group discussion Tuesday among Biden’s national security adviser Jake Sullivan and his counterparts from the five Nordic nations.

It also preceded a flurry of meetings involving NATO foreign ministers, senior U.S. and Russian officials, the NATO-Russia Council and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe set for next week.

Middle East attacks: Iraqi military bases hosting U.S. troops in Iraq’s western Anbar province and the capital of Baghdad were hit by Katyusha rockets Wednesday while in Syria, eight rounds of indirect fire landed inside a base with members of the U.S.-led coalition, the Iraqi and U.S. militaries said.

No casualties were reported in the three attacks.

According to an Iraqi officer, an Iraqi base was hit with five Katyusha rockets on Wednesday evening. The officer, who spoke on condi-



Riot police prepare to confront demonstrators on Wednesday in Almaty, Kazakhstan. In response to a near-doubling of fuel prices, protesters set the presidential palace and the mayor’s office in the Central Asian nation’s largest city on fire. On Thursday, a Russian-led military alliance said it would send peacekeeping forces to neighboring Kazakhstan. **VLADIMIR TRETYAKOV/AP**

tion of anonymity, said U.S.-led coalition forces at the base were forced into shelters. There was no immediate comment from the coalition, which is in Iraq to help fight the Islamic State group.

Earlier Wednesday, the Iraqi military said a rocket launcher with one rocket was located in a residential district in western Baghdad, an area used in the past by Iran-backed militias to fire at the airport. In eastern Syria, the rounds hit a base run by the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces with a small coalition advisory presence. The coalition said in a statement there was minor damage.

NKorea fires missile: North Korea fired a ballistic missile into the sea on Wednesday, the U.S. military said, its first weapons launch in about two months.

The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said the ballistic missile launch didn’t pose

an immediate threat to U.S. territory or its allies. It said in a statement that the U.S. commitment to the defense of its allies, South Korea and Japan, remains “ironclad.”

South Korea’s military said a suspected ballistic missile fired from North Korea’s mountainous northern Jagang province flew toward its eastern waters.

Plessy pardoned: Louisiana’s governor on Wednesday posthumously pardoned Homer Plessy, the Black man whose arrest for refusing to leave a whites-only railroad car in 1892 led to the Supreme Court ruling that cemented “separate but equal” into U.S. law for half a century.

The state Board of Pardons last year recommended the pardon for Plessy, who boarded the rail car as a member of a small civil rights group hoping to overturn a state law segregating trains. Instead, the protest led to the 1896 ruling known as Plessy

v. Ferguson, which solidified whites-only spaces in public accommodations such as transportation, hotels and schools for decades.

At a ceremony held near where Plessy was arrested, Gov. John Bel Edwards said he was “beyond grateful” to help restore Plessy’s “legacy of the rightness of his cause... undefiled by the wrongness of his conviction.”

The Plessy v. Ferguson ruling allowing racial segregation across American life stood as the law of the land until the Supreme Court unanimously overruled it in 1954, in Brown v. the Board of Education. Both cases argued that segregation laws violated the 14th Amendment’s right to equal protection.

US issues sanctions: The Biden administration announced sanctions Wednesday against Bosnian Serb leader Milorad Dodik, accusing him of “corrupt activities” that threaten to

destabilize the region and undermine a 1995 U.S.-brokered peace accord.

The Treasury Department also alleged that Dodik has used his leadership position to accumulate wealth through graft and bribery, including by providing government contracts and monopolies to business associates. The practical impact of the Biden administration’s actions is that any property or interest belonging to Dodik in the United States is blocked and must be reported.

Dodik, a member of Bosnia’s tripartite presidency that also includes a Bosniak and a Croat official, has for years been advocating the separation of the Bosnian Serb semi-autonomous mini-state from Bosnia and having it become part of Serbia.

That what would be a breach of the Dayton Accords, the U.S.-sponsored peace agreement that ended Bosnia’s civil war, which killed over 100,000 people.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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— John, Men’s Liberty user in Michigan

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|--|--|--|
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BUSINESS

COURANT.COM/BUSINESS

Fed officials note US job market near full recovery

But concerns over inflation’s spread, duration remain, meeting minutes show

By Christopher Rugaber
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. job market is nearly at levels healthy enough that the central bank’s low-interest rate policies are no longer needed, Federal Reserve officials concluded last month, according to minutes of the meeting released Wednesday.

Fed officials also expressed concerns that surging inflation was spreading into more areas of the economy and would last longer than they previously expected, the minutes said.

“Many (policymakers) saw the U.S. economy making rapid progress” toward the Fed’s goal of “maximum employment,” the minutes said. “Several” officials said they felt the goal had already been reached.

The minutes underscored the Fed’s sharp pivot from what had been its policy through most of the pandemic, shifting from keeping interest rates very low to encourage more hiring, to moving quickly toward raising rates to rein in inflation, which has surged to four-decade highs.

Fed officials also voiced heightened concerns about inflation, a development that pushed down stock prices after the minutes were released. Bond yields also rose in response. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, a benchmark for setting rates on mortgages and many other kinds of loans, increased to 1.7% soon after the minutes were released, from 1.68% just before.

“Inflation readings had been higher and were more persistent and widespread than previously anticipated,” the minutes said. “Some participants noted that ... the percentage of product categories with substantial price increases continued to climb.”

With inflation worsening and unemployment falling more quickly than many economists expected, Fed Chair Jerome Powell said after the Dec. 14-15 meeting that the central bank was accelerating the reduction of its ultra-low interest rate policies.

The Fed said last month that it would reduce the monthly bond purchases it has made since the spring of 2020 — which

are intended to lower long-term rates — at twice the pace it had previously set and will likely end those purchases in March. That accelerated timetable puts the Fed on a path to start hiking its benchmark short-term interest rate as early as the first half of this year.

Fed policymakers also suggested they could hike the Fed’s short-term benchmark interest rate three times this year. That signaled a significant pickup from their September meeting, when the 18 policymakers split over whether to lift rates a single time in 2022.

Even Fed officials who have long been focused on keeping rates low to combat unemployment — such as San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank President Mary Daly and Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari — now cite concerns about high inflation as a reason for raising interest rates this year.

The Fed’s key rate, which has been near zero for nearly two years, influences many consumer and business loans, including mortgages, credit cards and auto loans.

Hong Kong cites virus in banning US flights

By Zen Soo
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Hong Kong authorities announced a two-week ban on flights from the United States and seven other countries and held 2,500 passengers on a cruise ship for coronavirus testing Wednesday as the city attempted to stem an emerging omicron outbreak.

The ban on passenger flights from Australia, Britain, Canada, France, India, Pakistan, the Philippines and the United States will take effect Sunday and continue until Jan. 21.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam also announced that restaurant dining will be forbidden after 6 p.m. for two weeks starting Friday.

Game arcades, bars and beauty salons must also close during that period.

“We have to contain the pandemic to ensure that there will not be a major outbreak in the community again,” Lam said at a news conference, adding that the city is “on the verge” of another surge.

The measures came as new omicron clusters have emerged over the past week, many linked to several Cathay Pacific crew members who broke isolation rules and dined at restaurants and bars in the city before testing positive.

Thousands of passengers who were being held Wednesday on a Royal Caribbean cruise ship in Hong Kong for coronavirus tests, after health authorities said nine passengers were linked to an omicron cluster and ordered the ship to turn back.

The ship returned to Hong Kong on Wednesday and passengers were held onboard for most of the day while they awaited testing.

Royal Caribbean said in a statement that the nine guests were immediately isolated and all tested negative.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

More oil found off Guyana coast

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — ExxonMobil said Wednesday that it made two additional oil discoveries off the coast of Guyana as the South American country prepares to become the world’s newest major oil producer.

The discoveries occurred in an area where officials believe they can extract at least 10 billion oil-equivalent barrels.

The company said a vessel that arrived in Guyana late last year is expected to start production in upcoming months with a target of up to 220,000 barrels of oil a day.

Guyana issued its first oil and gas license to ExxonMobil in 2017 after the company said it made “significant” oil discoveries off the country’s Atlantic coast.

The deal is expected to generate up to \$5 billion a year for Guyana.

Germany keeps eye on Google

LONDON — Germany’s antitrust watchdog paved the way Wednesday for extra scrutiny of Google by designating it a company of “paramount significance,” the first to get that label since regulators got more power to curb abusive practices by big digital companies.

The Bundeskartellamt said its decision comes after rules were introduced last year that allow it “to intervene earlier and more effectively” to ban companies from using anti-competitive practices.

The watchdog said Google has “significant influence” over other companies’ access to its users and advertising customers through search, YouTube, Android and its online Play Store “and can set rules and conditions for other businesses across markets.”



Troy Webber, owner of Chesterfield Auto Parts, holds a used catalytic converter removed from one of the cars at his salvage yard last month in Richmond, Virginia. Thefts of the devices have jumped as prices for the precious metals they contain have skyrocketed. **STEVE HELBER/AP**

Catalytic converters targeted

Thieves sell precious metals the part contains to scrap yards that then resell them

By Denise Lavoie
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — In the tiny town of Lawrenceville, Virginia, a van owned by Poplar Mount Baptist Church was knocked out of commission for weeks after thieves cut the catalytic converter out of its exhaust system.

Several months later, across town, a catalytic converter was ripped from a van owned by First Baptist Church.

Similar crimes followed, targeting a total of 15 church vans and 13 other vehicles in town, part of a nationwide surge in thefts of catalytic converters.

Thefts of the exhaust emission control devices have jumped over the past two years as prices for the precious metals they contain have skyrocketed. Thieves can expect to get anywhere from \$50 to \$300 if they sell the converters to scrap yards, which then sell them to recycling facilities to reclaim the metals inside, including platinum, palladium and rhodium.

For victims, the costs of replacing a stolen catalytic converter can easily top \$1,000 and make their vehicle undrivable for days or weeks as the part is ordered and installed.

John Robinson, a member of Poplar Mount Baptist Church, said replacing the stolen converter cost about \$1,000. The theft was covered by insurance, but the church had to pay its \$250 deductible and was unable to use the van for six weeks.

The National Insurance Crime Bureau said the number of catalytic converter thefts reported in claims to insurance companies jumped from 3,389 in 2019 to 14,433 in 2020. NICB President David Glawe said there has been a significant increase in thefts since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It’s an opportunistic crime,” Glawe said in a statement. “As the value of the precious metals contained within the catalytic converters continues to increase, so do the number of thefts of these devices. There is a clear connection between times of crisis, limited resources and disruption of the supply chain that drives investors towards these precious metals.”

The increase in thefts has prompted states across the country to toughen penalties and impose new requirements for scrap

metal dealers who buy the converters. Ten states enacted new legislation in 2021, including laws in Arkansas, South Carolina and Texas that require scrap metal buyers of used converters to maintain records of purchases, including proof of ownership, vehicle identification numbers, the seller’s home address and driver’s license numbers, according to the insurance crime bureau.

In North Carolina, a law that went into effect Dec. 1 makes catalytic converter thefts a Class I felony and requires businesses that buy used converters to get documentation and maintain detailed records on people who sell the devices to them.

A bill modeled after the North Carolina law will be introduced in Virginia when the legislature reconvenes this month.

At Chesterfield Auto Parts, where customers can pull parts from junked cars, owner Troy Webber said his workers remove catalytic converters before the vehicles are made available to the public, then lock the devices in steel containers before selling them to auto recyclers. That doesn’t stop thieves from trying to break in, he said.

“People cut through our fence constantly to try to steal the catalytic converters,” he said.

Taiwan to invest in Lithuania amid China feud

By Liudas Dapkus
Associated Press

VILNIUS, Lithuania — Taiwan is creating an investment fund and planning other measures to help Lithuania as it faces major economic pressure from China for allowing the island to open a representative office in the European Union country, Taiwanese officials said Wednesday.

“The \$200 million fund will be used for investments into the Lithuanian economy and help its business, primarily into semiconductors, laser technology, biotech and other key industries,” Eric Huang, representative of the Taiwanese mission to Lithuania, told reporters in the Baltic nation’s capital of Vilnius.

Lithuania broke with diplomatic custom by agreeing that the Taiwanese office in Vilnius would bear the name Taiwan instead of Chinese Taipei, a term used by other countries to avoid offending Beijing. China considers Taiwan part of its territory with no right to diplomatic recognition.

The office, a de facto embassy, opened in November, and Lithuania is planning to open its own trade office in Taiwan later this year. It has infuriated China, which withdrew its ambassador to Vilnius and expelled the Lithuanian ambassador to Beijing. Lithuania, a member of the EU and NATO, has closed its embassy in Beijing over the dispute.

Taiwan said it is ready to help Lithuania in resupplying trade, with the island saying

goods are stopped from entering China.

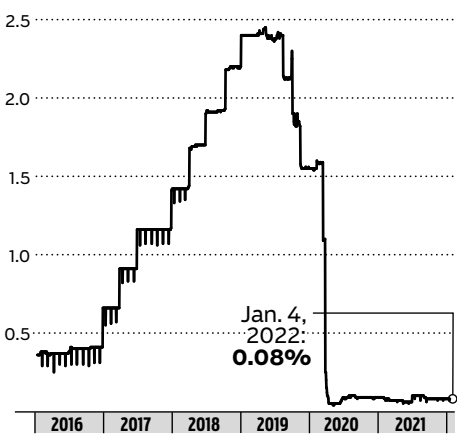
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian has called it “false news” that Beijing has blocked Lithuanian imports or pressured multinational companies that do business with the EU country.

“If there’s a problem with any products’ export to China, the enterprises concerned can report it to the Chinese authorities through normal channels. The individuals in the EU should respect facts and stop making irresponsible remarks,” Zhao said late last month.

He added that Lithuania “seriously damaged the political basis of our diplomatic relations” and that he has “heard that some Chinese enterprises no longer see Lithuania as a trustworthy partner.”

Effective federal funds rate

Daily interest rate at which banks lend each other reserve funds



SOURCE: Federal Reserve Bank of New York

TNS

BUSINESS

Feds pull plug on Killingly natural gas plant

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Plans to build a natural gas plant in Killingly have been scuttled by federal regulators at the request of New England’s electric grid operator.

The decision by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to cancel a power-generating agreement delivers a long-sought victory for environmentalists who are fighting the use of fossil fuels.

Regulators agreed with ISO-New England, the Holyoke, Massachusetts-based grid operator, that the Killingly plant will not be ready to begin operations until after June 1, 2024,

more than two years after it was committed to start. ISO said in November the Killingly project failed to meet its target established when it agreed in February 2019 to generate power.

In an emailed statement, NTE Energy, the St. Augustine, Florida, company that had planned to build the more than \$500 million plant, said it’s “very disappointed.”

“The Killingly Energy Center is important for grid reliability and we will continue to work to be the bridge for the region’s carbon-free future,” it said.

The proposal had received certification from the state Siting Council and an air permit from the

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

NTE told federal regulators that ISO’s request to terminate the deal is “premature and based on faulty assumptions.” It said it was delayed by challenges from other generators and environmentalists. It also blamed COVID-19 for sidelining employees who were forced to remain at home and disrupting supply chains and access to construction labor and other services and materials needed to start the project.

The Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club, which fiercely opposed the plant, called the federal decision “a bit of cheer as we start the New Year.”

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection considers plans for Killingly dead.

“This closes the chapter on the project and it is now time to focus on market changes that will support a clean and reliable grid of the future,” spokesman Will Healey said in an emailed statement.

Environmentalists put Gov. Ned Lamont and Katie Dykes, his energy commissioner, on the defensive over the Killingly plant. Samantha Dynowski, state director of Sierra Club Connecticut, told them at a September 2019 meeting she was concerned that Connecticut is the only New England state expanding natural

gas, “knowing that methane is the chief component of natural gas, the most destructive greenhouse gas we have.”

Dykes replied by saying natural gas is a “bridge from coal and oil,” which emit more carbon.

In November, when ISO-New England asked FERC to approve its request to terminate the deal, Dykes said the grid operator had reduced its forecast of how much power generation New England needs.

“Separate and apart from the viability of this particular project, it kind of raises the question about how much the region needs this particular facility to meet reliability needs of the elec-

tricity grid,” she said.

Matt Kakley, a spokesman for ISO-New England, said forecasts for electricity demand are developed through a “full stakeholder process” that includes representatives from Connecticut.

The ISO regularly updates its forecasts, accounting for changes in consumer demand patterns, energy efficiency and the use of solar panels, he said. In addition, periodic power purchase auctions account for updated demand forecasts and the status of projects being developed, Kakley said.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

\$29K for an average used car? Would-be buyers left shocked

By Tom Krisher
Associated Press

DETROIT — A couple of months ago, a woman paid a visit to Jeff Schrier’s used car lot in Omaha, Nebraska. She was on a tight budget, she said, and was desperate for a vehicle to commute to work.

She was shown three cars priced at her limit, roughly \$7,500. Schrier said the woman was stunned.

“‘That’s what I get for \$7,500?’” he recalled her saying.

The vehicles had far more age or mileage on them than she had expected for something to replace a car that had been totaled in a crash.

The woman eventually settled on a 2013 Toyota Scion with a whopping 160,000 miles on it. Schrier isn’t sure he made any profit on the deal.

“We just helped her out,” he said.

As prices for used vehicles blow past any seemingly

rational level, it is the kind of scenario playing out at many auto dealerships across the country. Prices have soared so high, so fast, that buyers are being increasingly priced out of the market.

Consider that the average price of a used vehicle in the United States in November, according to Edmunds.com, was \$29,011 — a dizzying 39% more than just 12 months earlier. And for the first time that anyone can recall, more than half of America’s households have less income than is considered necessary to buy the average-priced used vehicle.

The days when just about anyone with a steady income could wander onto an auto lot and snag a reliable late-model car or buy their kid’s first vehicle for a few thousand dollars have essentially vanished.

The blame can be traced directly to the pandemic’s eruption in March 2020. Auto plants suspended

production to try to slow the virus’s spread. As sales of new vehicles sank, fewer people traded in used cars and trucks. At the same time, demand for laptops and monitors from people stuck at home led semiconductor makers to shift production from autos, which depend on such chips, to consumer electronics.

When a swifter-than-expected economic rebound boosted demand for vehicles, auto plants tried to restore full production. But chip makers couldn’t respond fast enough.

And rental car companies and other fleet buyers, unable to acquire new vehicles, stopped off-loading older ones, thereby compounding the shortage of used vehicles.

Bleak as the market is for used-car buyers, the computer chip shortage has also driven new-vehicle prices higher. The average new vehicle, Edmunds.com says, is edging toward



Prices for used cars have soared so high that buyers are being priced out of the market. Above, a certified used car dealership in Schaumburg, Illinois. **NAM Y. HUH/AP 2021**

\$46,000.

Even so, prices of used cars are likely to edge closer to new ones. Since the pandemic started, used vehicle prices have jumped 42% — more than double the increase for the new ones. Last month, the average used vehicle price was 63% of the average new vehicle cost. Before the pandemic, it was 54%.

Including taxes, fees, a 10% down payment, and an interest rate of around




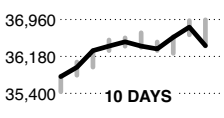
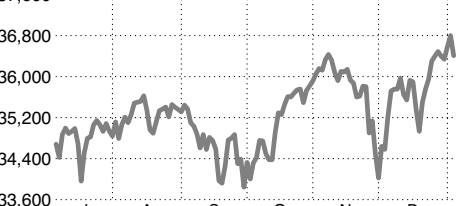
7.5%, the average used vehicle now costs \$520 a month, even when financed for the average of nearly six years, Edmunds calculated.


David Paris, a senior manager at J.D. Power, noted that used vehicle prices are directly tied to the cost of new ones. Though some automakers report that the computer chip supply is gradually improving, prices paid by dealers at used vehicle auctions kept rising through November, Paris

said.

Among the few consumers who stand to benefit are those who want to sell a used car and don’t necessarily need to replace it. The average trade-in value in October, Paris said, was \$9,000 — twice what it was a year earlier.

Some people may have to pay for repairs to keep a current vehicle running as long as possible. But even that option can become prohibitively expensive.


| MARKET RUNDOWN | | | |
|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Thursday, January 6, 2022 | | | |
|  DOW 36,407.11 -392.54 |  10-YR T-BOND 1.70% +0.4 |  GOLD \$1,824.60 +10.60 | |
|  Dow Jones Industrials Close: 36,407.11 Change: -392.54 (-1.1%) | | Commodities | |
|  Domestic Indexes | | FUELS | CLOSE PREV. YTD |
| | | Crude Oil (bbl) | 77.85 76.99 +3.51% |
| | | Natural Gas (mm btu) | 3.88 3.72 +4.08% |
| | | Unleaded Gas (gal) | 2.29 2.28 +2.86% |
| | | METALS | CLOSE PREV. YTD |
| | | Gold (oz) | 1,824.60 1,814.00 -1.6% |
| | | Silver (oz) | 23.15 23.04 -7.6% |
| | | (Previous and change figures reflect current contract.) | |
| | | Foreign Exchange | Money Rates |
| | | ForEx in U.S. \$ U.S. \$ in ForEx | CLOSE PREV. WK. |
| | | Britain 1.3560 .7375 | Prime rate 3.25 3.25 |
| | | Canada .7840 1.2755 | 3-mo. T-Bill 0.09 0.05 |
| | | China .1571 6.3644 | 6-mo. T-Bill 0.23 0.19 |
| | | Euro 1.1311 .8841 | 5-yr T-Note 1.43 1.29 |
| | | Japan .008609 116.16 | 10-yr T-Note 1.70 1.54 |
| | | Mexico .048686 20.5398 | 30-yr T-Bond 2.09 1.96 |
| | | Global Markets | CLOSE CHG. %CHG. %YTD |
| | | Frankfurt 16,271.75 | +119.14 +.74% +2.44% |
| | | London 7,516.87 | +11.72 +.16% +1.79% |
| | | Hong Kong 22,907.25 | -382.59 -1.64% -2.10% |
| | | Nikkei 29,332.16 | +30.37 +.10% +1.88% |
| Stocks of Local Interest | | | |
| STOCK (TICKER) | CLOSE | CHG. %CHG. | YTD %CHG. |
| AMC Entertainment A (AMC) | 22.75 | -2.74 | -16.4 |
| AT&T Inc (T) | 26.21 | +5.7 | +6.5 |
| Adv Micro Dev (AMD) | 136.15 | -8.27 | -5.4 |
| American Airlines Gp (AAL) | 18.68 | -.34 | +4.0 |
| Amphenol Corp (APH) | 85.12 | -1.65 | -2.7 |
| Apple Inc (AAPL) | 174.92 | -4.78 | -1.5 |
| Avangrid Inc (AGR) | 49.93 | +3.4 | +1 |
| Bank of America (BAC) | 47.18 | -.81 | +6.0 |
| Barnes Group (B) | 47.92 | -.36 | +2.9 |
| Booking Holdings (BKNG) | 2413.30 | -51.63 | +6 |
| Brist Myr Sqb (BMY) | 62.16 | +0.3 | -.3 |
| BTCs Inc (BTCs) | 4.36 | +1.33 | +38.9 |
| CVS Health Corp (CVS) | 105.81 | +1.52 | +2.6 |
| Carnival Corp (CCL) | 21.17 | -.56 | +5.2 |
| Carrier Global Corp (CARR) | 52.37 | -1.45 | -3.4 |
| Castlight Health Inc (CSLT) | 2.03 | +3.9 | +31.8 |
| Charter Commun (CHTR) | 624.86 | -15.91 | -4.2 |
| Cigna Corp (CI) | 236.52 | +3.22 | +3.0 |
| Cisco Syst (CSCO) | 60.28 | -.97 | -4.9 |
| Citigroup (C) | 62.85 | -.74 | +4.1 |
| Cleveland-Cliffs Inc (CLF) | 23.79 | +1.17 | +9.3 |
| Comcast Corp A (CMCSA) | 50.22 | +0.3 | -.2 |
| ContextLogic Inc (WISH) | 2.79 | -.25 | -10.3 |
| Data Storage Corp (DTST) | 4.13 | +1.03 | +35.0 |
| Denison Mines (DNN) | 1.58 | +0.7 | +15.3 |
| DiDi Global Inc (DIDI) | 5.02 | +0.2 | +8 |
| Disney (DIS) | 155.19 | -.54 | +2 |
| EMCOR Group Inc (EME) | 127.10 | -2.91 | -.2 |
| Ethan Allen (ETD) | 26.44 | -.58 | +6 |
| Eversource Energy (ES) | 89.23 | +8.4 | -1.9 |
| Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) | 66.75 | +8.2 | +9.1 |
| Ford Motor (F) | 23.66 | -.65 | +13.9 |
| FuelCell Energy (FCEL) | 5.32 | -.56 | +2.3 |
| Gen Dynamics (GD) | 210.31 | -1.74 | +9 |
| Gen Electric (GE) | 99.37 | ... | +5.2 |
| General Motors Co (GM) | 62.74 | -3.00 | +7.0 |
| Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB) | 70.96 | -.39 | -3.2 |
| Hartford Fn Sv (HIG) | 70.36 | -.47 | +1.9 |
| Honeywell Intl (HRZN) | 211.06 | +2.06 | +1.2 |
| Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN) | 15.87 | -.25 | -.3 |
| Immix Biopharma Inc (IMMX) | 6.75 | +2.6 | +89.6 |
| Infosys Ltd (INFY) | 24.30 | -.81 | -4.0 |
| Intel Corp (INTC) | 53.87 | +7.3 | +4.6 |
| Kaman (KAMN) | 44.59 | -.21 | +3.3 |
| Keycorp (KEY) | 24.67 | -.15 | +6.7 |
| Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC) | 70.91 | -1.73 | +3.9 |
| Lucid Group Inc (LCID) | 36.68 | -2.73 | -3.6 |
| MGM Resorts Intl (MGM) | 43.04 | -2.35 | -4.1 |
| Magellan Health Inc (MGLN) | 94.99 | ... | ... |
| Meten Holding Group (METX) | .25 | -.01 | -2.0 |
| MetLife Inc (MET) | 64.63 | -.31 | +3.4 |
| Micron Tech (MU) | 94.40 | -1.94 | +1.3 |
| Microsoft Corp (MSFT) | 316.38 | -12.63 | -5.9 |
| Nikola Corp (NKLA) | 9.88 | -.44 | +1 |
| Novartis AG (NVS) | 88.03 | +5.56 | +6 |
| Nvidia Corporation (NVDA) | 276.04 | -16.86 | -6.1 |
| Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS) | 83.83 | -2.39 | -3.7 |
| Palantir Technol (PLTR) | 16.96 | -1.21 | -6.9 |
| Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT) | 19.11 | +1.12 | +7.2 |
| Pfizer Inc (PFE) | 55.63 | +1.10 | -5.8 |
| Pitney Bowes (PBI) | 6.62 | -.17 | -.2 |
| Prudential Fncl (PRU) | 111.40 | -2.31 | +2.9 |
| Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG) | 65.83 | -.16 | -1.3 |
| Raytheon Technolog (RTX) | 89.57 | -.45 | +4.1 |
| Robinhood Markets A (HOOD) | 15.98 | -1.42 | -10.0 |
| Rogers Corp (ROG) | 273.20 | +1.19 | +1 |
| SS&C Technologies (SSNC) | 82.26 | -.70 | +3 |
| SoFi Technologies (SOFI) | 14.10 | -.95 | -10.8 |
| Stanley Black & Deck (SWK) | 191.36 | -.82 | +1.5 |
| Starwood Prop Trust (STWD) | 24.85 | -.12 | +2.3 |
| Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL) | .61 | -.03 | +5.9 |
| Terex Corp (TEX) | 45.03 | -1.40 | +2.5 |
| Tesla Inc (TSLA) | 1088.12 | -61.47 | +3.0 |
| Tilray Inc (TLRY) | 6.63 | -.48 | -5.7 |
| Travelers Cos (TRV) | 159.77 | +7.77 | +2.1 |
| Uber Technologies (UBER) | 43.24 | -1.18 | +3.1 |
| United Rentals (URI) | 335.02 | -12.07 | +8 |
| UnitedHealth Group (UNH) | 489.69 | -1.21 | -2.5 |
| Verizon Comm (VZ) | 54.02 | +5.55 | +4.0 |
| Virtus Invest (VRTS) | 286.25 | -10.25 | -3.7 |
| VOYA Financial (VOYA) | 70.83 | +4.42 | +6.8 |
| Webster Financial (WBS) | 59.35 | -.16 | +6.3 |
| Wells Fargo & Co (WFC) | 52.29 | -.46 | +9.0 |
| White Mtns Insur (WTM) | 101.00 | +7.48 | +5 |
| World Wrestling Ent (WWE) | 48.67 | -1.85 | -1.4 |
| XPO Logistics Inc (XPO) | 72.77 | -3.36 | -6.0 |
| Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX) | 23.33 | -.43 | +3.0 |




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Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

I was in the House chamber when the rioters stormed the Capitol. One year later, the Republican Party has learned from the failed coup and is working for its eventual success.



One year ago, rioters broke windows and breached the Capitol building in an attempt to overthrow the results of the 2020 election. LEV RADIN/PACIFIC PRESS

DEMOCRACY STILL UNDER ATTACK

By **Jim Himes**

One year ago, I huddled in a corner of the House of Representatives behind Capitol Police officers with their weapons pointed at the crumbling door to the chamber. We could hear the shouted obscenities and the mayhem beyond. We had heard the gunshot which killed an assailant. The images of that day are a scar on our history, and an continuing indictment of a president who fomented the first violent attack on a peaceful transition of American power.

For all of the attention the events of Jan. 6 will get, they are not how our democracy ends. Today, they feel to me like a distraction from the slow but continuing extinguishment of our democracy in state legislatures, congressional offices and the production rooms of right-wing media outlets. Our democracy is ending not with a Viking-horned bang, but with a bureaucratic whimper.

My colleagues on the Jan. 6 select committee are uncovering the lurid details of the coup attempt. That effort hinged on the creation of enough uncertainty and chaos to stop the Congress from certifying the electoral vote count. Either Vice President Mike Pence would simply end the process or Republican lawmakers would create enough opposition to throw the vote to the House of Representatives or to state legislatures to select new electors. Either way, Donald Trump, the clear loser of the election, would remain in power, and American democracy would be finished.

The plan didn't fail because marauders were forced from the Capitol. It failed because of the courage of a handful of largely Republican officials who refused to participate in the coup. Most notably, Mike Pence, after

four years of fawning loyalty to Donald Trump, chose democracy over the orders of his boss. Equally crucially, ground-level functionaries like Brad Raffensperger, Georgia's Secretary of State, did their jobs faithfully, even, in Raffensperger's case, when asked directly by Trump to "find 11,780 votes."

Here's the problem. The GOP, minus a few remarkably courageous people like my colleagues Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger, has learned from the failed coup, and is working for its eventual success. This effort takes several forms, and it is important that we recognize each of them.

First, swing states with Republican legislatures are working to solve the Brad Raffensperger problem. In Georgia, the partisan legislature empowered the State Election Board, which it controls, to override vote counts in any jurisdiction. In Arizona and Missouri, legislatures are seeking explicit authority to appoint presidential electors without reference to the actual vote count. Next time, the role of election officials will be played by partisan legislators. All of this is being undertaken under the guise of addressing widespread voter fraud, a problem which simply does not exist.

Second, Donald Trump and his enablers continue to promote the lie that the election was stolen. Polling consistently indicates that more than half of Republicans believe that Trump is the legitimate President, despite the absence of any evidence that this is true. The willingness of a great mass of people to believe the leader rather than the evidence is an authoritarian holy grail. The great mass of Republicans, including most of my colleagues, who can't call out the Big Lie for what it is are complicit in its zombie-like survival.

Third, the American right is now fetishizing violence. Christmas cards featuring heavily armed families, talk of "national divorce" and the constant use of the language of war diminishes the role of reason and compromise in

national dialogue. It also guarantees that the violence I saw on Jan. 6 at the Capitol will be more severe and widespread next time.

Finally, the American right continues to bludgeon our capacity for moral discernment.

Thus, a coordinated presidential attack on our democracy is equated with vandalism in Portland. Every criticism of Donald Trump's coup is blunted in a fog of "what abouts?" Every intemperate statement by a Democratic backbencher is used to dilute the unique horror of Trump's attack on our system. All of this is about dulling our ability to discern mortal danger from the recurrent annoyances of a frothing democracy, to lull us into confused complacency.

Countering this continuing attack on our democracy requires that we see these things for what they are and for where they lead. We must resist these efforts wherever they are made. We must demand that Republicans find the courage of the Kinzingers and Cheneys to put our democracy before their near-term political ambitions. They, and we all, must take comfort in the fact that attacks on our democracy like the Civil War or the depredations of Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s are ultimately condemned in the court of American history.

As much as I am grateful to them, American democracy was not saved by the Capitol Police on Jan. 6. It was saved by the courage of a handful of real patriots laboring in election offices. It was saved because our courts, much of the media and a majority of Americans could see the outlines of the coup through the fog of lies. It was saved because the violence was limited to the square mile in which I sat.

Next time, soon, none of those things may be true

Jim Himes is the U.S. representative for the 4th Congressional District in Connecticut.

As omicron threatens hospitals, it is time to discuss triage

By **Andreas Kluth**
Bloomberg Opinion

At some point after he became chief surgeon in Napoleon's army, Dominique Jean Larrey started walking across blood-soaked battlefields to pick out those among the wounded who could still be saved, usually by instant amputation of limbs. In time, he developed a system of sorting and separating — trier in French — the casualties. Ignoring rank and nationality, he considered only those who had the greatest chance of surviving. His method became known as triage.

In worst-case scenarios, triage is now accepted almost universally as necessary and justified. And yet, the idea still rests on an act of cruelty — cruel both to a victim and to the doctor having to make the decision. It often necessitates allowing one human being to die in order to ration the care that might let another live.

The current pandemic is a worst-case scenario. On-and-off for almost two years, doctors and nurses in some places have had to make traumatizing choices about life and death. Sometimes they had too many COVID patients for too few ventilators; other times too many with SARS-CoV-2 to be able to treat those dying from cancer or other diseases. Now the omicron variant — which appears to be somewhat milder but much more infectious — threatens to overwhelm hospitals yet again.

Against that backdrop, nine Germans

have done us a favor by starting an overdue debate. They brought a case to the constitutional court in Karlsruhe, arguing that during triage situations they risked discrimination, and therefore death. That's because they suffer from disabilities. One, aged 30, had a stroke just after birth and can't walk, stand or speak. Others have atrophied spinal muscles that complicate breathing. The oldest is a septuagenarian who has heart disease and diabetes.

Under existing guidelines in Germany, issued by a medical association, disabilities should in theory be irrelevant during triage — as is the case with age, sex or ethnicity. The only thing that matters is whether one individual patient in a specific situation with a specific ailment stands a better chance of being saved than another.

In practice, however, doctors under pressure are apt to view the frailties of disabled people as "comorbidities," and thus relevant. Nancy Poser, one of the plaintiffs, explained the situation this way: If she had a heart attack and showed up in the hospital in her wheelchair, she'd get a worse triage score than a smoker simultaneously arriving with COVID-19. He'd get a bed; she wouldn't. She "would have to die, exactly that."

Recently, the judges in Karlsruhe ruled for the plaintiffs by requiring parliament to swiftly pass legislation that will govern the triage decisions to come. Ruling discrimination unconstitutional is the easy part, of course. The hard part will be enacting laws that give doctors legal security and simulta-

neously make sense in the real world, rather than just causing new problems.

As the discussions heat up, some pundits are already demanding making triage more fair overall. There's danger in that goal. We can't agree on what's "fair" even in other policy areas, such as taxation, and certainly won't in this context.

Start with this hottest potato — how doctors should treat unvaccinated patients in triage. Almost nine in 10 of those hospitalized in Germany with SARS-CoV-2 are people who haven't had their shots. If they had all been inoculated, intensive care units would never have come under such pressure and there wouldn't be a need for triage at all.

To some people, this suggests that vaccinated patients, other things being equal, should get dibs, and the unvaccinated should wait for beds. Martin Hoffmann, a philosophy professor, emphasizes that this wouldn't be about "punishing" the unvaccinated. It would simply take into account that the vaccinated have already taken an (admittedly tiny) risk — that of adverse reaction to the jab — to protect themselves and others. The unvaccinated haven't, and must therefore accept more risk subsequently. This logic may make intuitive sense, but intuition can be a bad guide to triage laws. Any consideration of vaccination status, like disability, would open Pandora's box. Just as Larrey didn't take rank into account, medical staff must never mix quasi-moral judgments into their decisions — that is, how "deserving" a patient may be, based

on previous behavior. Otherwise, doctors would set precedents that could in time lead to a new debates about whose life is worth living.

The German parliament and other legislatures should therefore clarify that the allocation of scarce medical care must be based solely on the merits of each individual case and the relative likelihood of success, always with the goal of maximizing lives saved. Only medical staff can make these decisions.

But to ensure that even under pressure and ambiguity no discrimination takes place, parliament could require doctors to seek additional and independent opinions — perhaps from a medical board that can be contacted around the clock. This would add bureaucracy, but might prevent some bad calls. That leaves the thorny issue of those unwilling to get vaccinated. Triage is not the place to deal with it. But society is justified in trying to prevent the worst-case scenarios that lead to triage in the first place. Provided shots can be made available to all, democratically elected legislatures are therefore well within their rights to mandate vaccination.

Like every doctor, Larrey would have preferred to treat every single victim on the battlefield. Our overall goal in policy today must be to keep that option alive — by making triage unnecessary wherever possible, so that doctors can care for all patients.

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Avon
Jill Rendell

Berlin
John M. Day

Bloomfield
Leon C. Campbell
Jubenise G. Gaither
Cheryl J. Jarrett
Frances H. Leo-Wolf Brown

Burlington
Jill Rendell

Coventry
Joel F. Rategan

East Granby
Michael J. Mucha

East Hartford
Fred A. Robinson

East Windsor
Richard J. O'Leary

Enfield
Anthony F. Lombardi

Farmington
Fred A. Robinson

Glastonbury
John P. McGovern

Hartford
Jubenise G. Gaither
Frances H. Leo-Wolf Brown
Anthony F. Lombardi
Christopher J. Marrior

Manchester
Leona C. Dunham
Maureen F. Ferrante
Constance E. Shea

Middletown
Heather McDonnell

New Britain
Marilyn L. Driscoll
Virginia Wallis

New Hartford
Janet S. Barnes

Newington
Sheldon Dolinger

Niantic
Christopher J. Marrior

Other Towns in CT
Bernard Berube
Roger T. Laskow, Sr
Ellen Mickel
Sharon W. Renaldi

Out of State
Joan M. Conley
Nicola L. Douglas
Stanley J. Szymkowicz

Plainville
Bernard Berube

Rocky Hill
John Roche
Stanley J. Szymkowicz

Simsbury
Janet S. Barnes

South Windsor
Leona C. Dunham
Maureen F. Ferrante
Ellen Mickel

Southington
Rosa Calafiore

Stamford
Mae V. Morin
Carl Bennett

West Hartford
Anne Marie Chalmers
Sheldon Dolinger
Rochelle Gershman
Dr. Thomas J. Halligan, Jr.

Windsor
Richard J. Lawlor

OUT OF STATE
John M. Conceicao
Avondale, AR
Joan M. Conley
Ballston Spa, NY
John P. McGovern
Garden City, NY

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Renaldi, Sharon W.



Sharon Williams Mauro Renaldi, 70, of Northford, passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 2nd, 2022 after a brave battle with cancer. She was the beloved wife of Norman C. Renaldi, Jr. Sharon was born in New Haven on December 16, 1951 and was the daughter of the late Harold and Emily White Williams. Sharon was an adventurous and generous spirit. After working as a dental hygienist for years in Wallingford she started a cleaning business, S&J Cleaning, with her husband John. She was beloved by her clients, many of which became her friends. Sharon was known for her love of animals, gardening, camping and being with people. She was very active in the Wallingford Rod and Gun Club, making many friends and was active in many social events. Her warm heart will be missed by many. Beloved mother of Norman C. Renaldi III. Grandmother of Lianna, Salina and Dylan. Sister of Patty and her husband Chuck, Harry and his wife Chris, Ronnie and his wife Lianna. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. Predeceased by a brother Steve, sister Sandy, and husband John.

The visiting hours will be Saturday, Jan. 8th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at The Havens Family, North Haven Funeral Home, 36 Washington Avenue. A service of remembrance will be conducted at 1:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be directed to the Meriden Humane Society, 311 Murdock Avenue, Meriden, CT 06450. www.northhavenfuneral.com



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Leo-Wolf Brown, Frances Helen



Frances Helen Leo-Wolf Brown, 91, of Bloomfield, departed this life on Saturday, January 1, 2022 surrounded by her loving daughters. A memorial celebration of Frances's life will take place on Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 1:00pm at the Covenant Presbyterian Church/The Barn, located on 124 Old Farms Road, Simsbury, CT 06070. Interment will be held on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at the Oakdale Cemetery in Washington, NC. To leave a message of comfort for the Leo-Wolf and Brown and view the full obituary please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



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Gaither, Jubenise Gloria



Jubenise Gloria Gaither went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 28, 2021. She was born and raised in Hartford, CT to the late Noah and Bennie Mae Grice. She retired from the Department of Labor as a Claim Processor to take care of her grandson. She was a lifetime member of the Mt. Olive Church where she served on many ministries. She is the most strong, loving, caring, generous and most of all God serving woman who touched any one who crossed her path. She always gave praised to God and kept Him first in her life. She was survived by her daughter Elizabeth Crawford, her grandchildren Ebony and Garry Crawford, her great grandchildren Nyelle Palmer and Mark-Jacob Nance. She was predeceased by her sister Roslie Lee Willingham, her brothers James and Charles Grice and Curtis Johnson, her sister-in-law Sylvia Grice and her stepmother Rosa Grice. She was also survived by her sisters-in-laws Shirley Grice, Jean Johnson and Johnnie Mae Grice and a host of nieces, nephews and friends, who many she kept a special place in her heart. She loved all her family, friends, brothers and sisters in Christ unconditionally. And now she is at peace with God. A celebration of Jubenise's life will take place on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 11:00am with a calling hour from 10:00am – 11:00am at Mt. Olive Church Ministries, 20 Battles Street, Hartford, CT 06120. To leave a message of comfort for the Gaither family and view the full obituary please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



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OBITUARIES

Chalmers, Anne Marie (Dlugos)

Anne Marie (Dlugos) Chalmers, 92, of West Hartford, beloved wife for 32 years of the late Robert S. Chalmers died on Sunday, January 2, 2022 at home surrounded by her family. Born November 13, 1929 in Southington, CT, daughter of the late Joseph and Anna (Gura) Dlugos. She lived in West Hartford for over 59 years. Anne is survived by her son Robert of West Hartford and his daughter, Becky; daughter Susan of Westerly RI and son Richard of Palm Coast FL and his daughter Grace; her sisters Dorothy Babon, Ruth Tortora, and Rita Bassett her brother Robert Dlugos and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers William and Jerome Dlugos. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Peter Claver Church, 47 Pleasant Street, West Hartford on January 7, 2022 at 10 AM. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the American Heart Association or to the charity of your choice. Online expressions of sympathy at www.molloyfuneralhome.com



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McDonnell, Heather



Heather D. McDonnell, age 50, of Deep River passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2022 at the Yale-New Haven Hospital in New Haven. Heather was the beloved daughter of Peggy (Salyers) McDonnell of Ivoryton and the late Michael S. McDonnell. She was born in Middletown on November 4, 1971. Heather was a graduate of Valley Regional High School in Deep River and the Morse School of Business in Hartford. Heather has been a caregiver for the past 12 years working in private homes. She was an avid reader and loved caring for animals especially cats. Heather loved to be outdoors and walking with her dear friends Ann Everett and Liz Fernandes. Besides her mother Peggy she leaves her brother, Brian McDonnell of Ivoryton, her nephews, Jaden McDonnell of Ivoryton and August Faulkner of Georgia, her special friend, Ken Barbar, her Aunt Barbara and Uncle Bill Pittman of North Carolina and her numerous cousins. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 8th at 1:30PM at the Emmanuel Baptist, 195 Old Boston Post Road in Old Saybrook. Burial will be privately held in the Centerbrook Cemetery in Centerbrook. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in Heather's name to an animal shelter or rescue. To share a memory of Heather or send a condolence to her family please visit www.rwwfh.com Arrangements are in the care of the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home in Centerbrook.

Robinson, Fred A.



Fred A. Robinson, 91, of Farmington and formerly of Zephyrhills, FL and East Hartford, peacefully passed away unexpectedly on Monday, December 27, 2021 at his home. He was the loving husband of 60 years of the late Barbara K. (Mountain) Robinson. Born in Dexter, Maine on April 4, 1930, a son of the late Everett and Livona Gardys (Nichols) Robinson, he had resided in East Hartford for forty years prior to moving to Zephyrhills, FL in 2002 where he was a resident until returning to Farmington this year.

Growing up on a farm in Maine, Fred learned how to be a successful farmer and vegetable gardener. Fred was a proud veteran of the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He moved down to East Hartford to begin his career at United Technologies, where he was a Systems Analyst at the Fuel Cell Division in South Windsor for 33 years. A talented athlete, Fred played baseball, ice hockey and semi-pro football. He was also an avid golfer and shuffleboard player. After moving to Florida, Fred became a loyal fan of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Tampa Rays, along with his UConn Women's basketball team. Fred is survived by his daughter, Nathalie G. Robinson, E.D.D. of Farmington with whom he made his home; a son, Fred A. Robinson, Jr. and his wife, Barbara, of East Hartford; two special grandsons, Lt. Col. Nicholas A. Robinson and his wife, Elizabeth, of Manassas, VA, Christopher A. Robinson and his partner, Jason Ketchem, of Edgewater, MD; two adored great-granddaughters, Harlow G. Robinson and Finley I. Robinson both of Manassas, VA; a dear friend, Ardith "Ardie" Bolcato of Zephyrhills, FL; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A memorial service celebrating Fred's life will be Monday (January 10, 2022) at 12 noon at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Military honors will immediately follow outside the funeral home chapel. Private burial will be held later at the convenience of the family up in Dexter, Maine. Fred's family will receive relatives and friends at the funeral home chapel on Monday morning (January 10th) from 10 am to 12 noon. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Fred's name may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 200 Executive Blvd., Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoh.com.



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Campbell, Leon Costella



Leon Costella Campbell, 70, of Bloomfield, beloved husband for 43 years, of Shelby (Hooper) Campbell, transitioned peacefully on Thursday, December 30, 2021, surrounded by his loving family. Leon was born and raised in West Palm Beach, FL, the son of the late Ferris Adams and Ethel Lee (Beasley) Crawford. In addition to his wife Shelby, he leaves to cherish his memories, his three daughters, Sharon Campbell, Shanta Campbell- Griffiths, and Nicole Campbell; four sons, Leon C. Campbell (Felicia), Stephen P. Campbell, Marcus Campbell, and David Campbell, nine grandchildren and one great-grand child. Family will receive friends on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 11am-12pm and funeral services to follow 12pm at Full Gospel Foundation Building Ministries, 42 E Dudley Town Road, Bloomfield. For the complete obituary, and online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Barnes, Janet S. (Staszowski)



Janet (Staszowski) Barnes passed peacefully on January 3, 2022, at McLean in Simsbury, CT. Born in Winsted, CT on June 20, 1922, to Joseph and Aniella Staszowski, Janet attended local schools in Winsted and graduated from The Gilbert School. She worked with her family at Green Woods Country Club where her father and then her brothers were employed. She and her siblings also helped run the family farm on Torrington Street during her youth.

Janet was employed at Case Printers in Winsted for many years before starting The Winchester Press, her own business, retiring in 1981. She also served as Truant Officer for many years in the Winchester School System. Janet married L. Edward Barnes of New Hartford, CT in 1973 and made her new home in that town. They spent many happy years traveling in their motor home and enjoying their summers at their cottage on Otis Reservoir with family. Her favorite time of the year was August blueberry picking there which resulted in many delicious blueberry pies throughout each winter. Shortly after her husband passed in 1991, Janet relocated to Mclean in Simsbury where she lived until her death. She was a member of the Auxiliary and volunteered for many McLean Benefit Golf Tournaments. Janet was a skilled seamstress and knitter and donated her projects to local charities.

In addition to her husband, she is predeceased by her brothers Frank, Stan, John, and sister Veronica. Janet conversed daily with her surviving sister Babe (Josephine Ochotnicki) to discuss UCONN women's basketball, the daily "Jumble" and other important happenings. Although she had no children of her own, she was a loving and generous aunt to many nieces, nephews, and their children. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff, nurses and physicians at McLean Burkholder apartments, Robinson assisted living and Chapel Crossing skilled nursing services for all of their care. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, 31 Oak St., Winsted, CT. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery. There are no calling hours. Relatives and friends are asked to meet directly at St. Joseph Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Gilbert School Scholarship Fund, 200 Williams Avenue, Winsted, CT 06098 in memory of L. Edward Barnes and Janet S. Barnes or to St. Joseph Church, 31 Oak St., Winsted, CT 06098 at Janet's request. Condolences may be sent to Janet's family by visiting www.cookfuneralhomect.com

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Dolinger, Sheldon



Sheldon Dolinger died 1/2/22 in Bloomfield, CT. He was a long term resident of West Hartford, and a resident of Newington since 2007. Predeceased by his wife Cynthia Kone Dolinger and his daughter Samantha Cook, he leaves two daughters, Julie Cushman (Guy), Ann Arbor, MI, and Marna Dolinger (Steve Gold) Brookline, MA, and a sister Thema Ratner of Boynton Beach, FL. He was preceded in death by brothers Al and Milton Dolinger and sister Rose Valenzo.

Born in Brooklyn New York in 1928, his family moved to Scranton PA. There he was vice president of the Alpha Zadic Alpha fraternity, a national organization associated with the YMHA, and was captain of the fraternity basketball team.

He enlisted in the US Regular Army. After graduation from High School he served in the US Army, 24th Infantry Division in the occupation forces in Japan. He received an Honorable Discharge as a Technical Sergeant after serving out his enlistment.

Upon leaving the US Army, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from Pennsylvania State University in 1952 and later, while working at United Technologies Corporation, he received a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI).

Mr. Dolinger was employed by United Technologies Corporation. His initial assignment was at the United Technologies Research Center in East Hartford, a central research organization for the corporation. In 1957, he was assigned to a new Division, the Missiles and Space Systems Division. This Division later became the Corporate System Center, where he was part of the team working on design and manufacture of inertial guidance systems, which provided a backup inertial guidance system for the APOLLO space program, that helped bring the crippled APOLLO 13 and its astronauts back home. This system eventually became a new produce line for the company. He retired in December 1991 as the Manager, Division Technology Transfer and Coordination.

After retirement from UTC, he was one of the founders of a nonprofit company, the Connecticut Technology Associates, Inc. (CTA) in 1992, where he was Director of the Technology Application Center, Secretary, and Member of the Board of Directors. At this retirement from CTA in 2002, he formed a Sole Proprietorship, SD Associates. He was fully retired at the time of his death.

He was cofounder of the Hartford, CT Chapter of the American Rocket Society in the early 70's, and it's President for two years. The American Rocket Society later became an affiliate of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics of which he was a member.

He was a long term member of Congregation Beth Israel, West Hartford, CT. Contributions can be made to Congregation Beth Israel, Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT.

A virtual Shiva will be held Saturday 1/8/22 at 5PM. For information please contact Congregation Beth Israel. Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries



OBITUARIES

Ferrante, Maureen F. (Donlon)



Maureen Frances (Donlon) Ferrante, 75, of South Windsor, CT and formerly a long-time resident of Spring Hill, FL, died on Jan. 2, 2022. For over 20 years, she was the beloved wife of the late Michael Peter Ferrante. She leaves her daughters, Deborah Gallo Gabriel and her husband, James; Lori Gallo Kowal and her husband, David; and Keri Gallo Jonas; step-children, Michael Ferrante and Deborah McCullen; grandchildren Patrick and Zachary Carey; Addison and Austin Jonas; and Kelsey and Delaney Kowal; step-grandchildren Jacob and Amelia McCullen; and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends. She was predeceased by her late beloved husband, Salvatore A. Gallo, Jr. and daughter Tricia Gallo-Carey. Maureen was the daughter of the late Thomas J. Donlon Jr. and Frances (Folan) Donlon; youngest sister of Kathleen Goldberg, Thomas J. Donlon II, and the late Patricia E. Frasca.

Maureen spent many years working for the State of Connecticut on the University of Connecticut's campus. She thoroughly enjoyed her time on campus and creating the curriculum for her teams. Maureen was an excellent cook and entertainer, and it was always her extraordinary pleasure to prepare elaborate meals and serve her guests on the most exquisite table servings. Her favorite Holiday was Christmas. She began preparing for Christmas right after Halloween. Maureen was the life of every party and all who knew her will remember her infectious laugh.

A time of visitation for family and friends will be at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Road in South Windsor on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 from 4-7 pm. Funeral services will be on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 9 am at the funeral home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 am at St. Bridget Church, 80 Main St. in Manchester. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, East Hartford. To leave an online condolence please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Conley, Joan M. (Simon)



Hebron, CT
Joan Marie (Simon) Conley, 74, passed away peacefully with family at her side on Monday, January 3, 2022. She was born in Colonie, New York on November 16, 1947 to John and Ruth (Thompson) Simon.

Joan worked as a hematologist at Manchester Hospital.

After receiving her master's in Public Health Education, she worked as a Project Manager for Beckman Coulter. Joan served her community through a variety of volunteer roles beginning as early as 1979 with the Hebron Junior Women's Club. She was a Brownie and Girl Scout leader, volunteered with AHM Youth and Family Services, a commissioner on the Hebron Housing Authority and an active member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

She enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren, putting her toes in the sand, eating lobster at Abbott's, traveling, gardening, attending educational events, various festivals, knitting and reading. In the winter months she was an avid UCONN Women's Basketball fan and enjoyed the companionship of her friends while watching games.

Joan was predeceased by her husband, James E. Conley (Hebron, CT). She is survived by her half-brother Al Shull (Marilyn) of Goshen, CT; son John Conley (Erin) of Northville, NY; daughter Debbi Hamm (Forrest) of Blue Ridge, GA; step-son James Conley (Carol) of Voorheesville, NY; step-son Kevin Conley (Christine) of East Berne, NY; granddaughters Meaghan, Amanda, Teagan and Sloane; grandsons Kevin Jr., James III, Tim, Emerson, Ryan, Garrison, and Anderson; many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews that she was very fond of.

Funeral services will be on Saturday, January 15th at 11am at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Hebron, Ct. Memorial contributions in memory of Joan may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation. <https://app.mobilecause.com/vf/PFFTribute/JoanConley>

Online remembrances may be made at www.armerfuneralhome.com

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Gershman, Rochelle (Platt)



Rochelle "Cookie" (Platt) Gershman, 81, of West Hartford, died peacefully on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. She was the daughter of the late Jack and Sylvia (Adler) Platt. Born in Hartford, she lived most of her life in West Hartford. Rochelle was a life-long learner, traveler, educator, and guidance counsellor who positively impacted the lives of her family, friends

and students. After retiring, she served for 10 years as a staunch advocate and Surrogate Parent for disadvantaged children in Connecticut. She read voraciously, watched the latest movies, gathered with wonderful friends, travelled the world by land and sea, visited every US state, and, importantly, lovingly cared for her family. She was in the first graduating class of Conard High School, earned her bachelors from UCONN and Masters from the University of Hartford.

She is survived by her loving husband of 52 years, Zane, devoted daughters Julie and Alisa, as well as, her tantas Evelyn Dvorin and Joy Platt, sister and brother-in-law Lynne and Alan Van Praag and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends who will greatly miss her and her contagious smile. She is also predeceased by her brothers and sisters-in-law Morton Gershman and Rita and Leon Gerson.

A special thank you to her incredible aide Hawa and the ICU team at St Francis Hospital for their tender care in her final days.

Funeral services will be graveside with masks required at the Hartford City Lodge on 313 Tower Ave in Hartford on Thursday, January 6 at 11am. Arrangements are entrusted to the Hebrew Funeral Association. A Zoom link will be available for the funeral. Due to COVID health concerns, the family will observe a private period of shiva and mourning. Donations in fond memory of Rochelle can be made to the "Jewish Community Foundation," at www.jcfhartford.org/donate/ or by mail to 333 Bloomfield Ave, West Hartford, CT 06117 and specifically directed to the Zane and Rochelle Gershman Fund. May her memory be a source of strength and a blessing.

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Roche, John

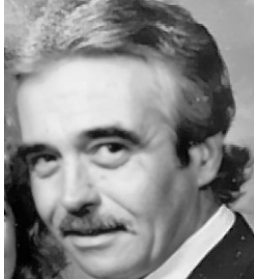


John Edward Roche, 78, of Rocky Hill, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 30, 2021, at Mid-State Medical Center in Meriden. John was the husband of Mary Radomski Roche. John was born in New Haven on April 19, 1943, to the late John F. and Mary H. Roche. John attended Hamden Hall for twelve years and then went on to the University of New Haven graduating with the Class of '64 with a BS degree in Electrical Engineering. He worked for IRI, Industrial Risk Insurers of West Hartford for 35 years until retiring in 1996. His job took him to work in many New York locations, including Buffalo, Rochester and Binghamton. He also set up a new office for the company in Canada, working for fifteen years in Toronto. He was also a Third-Degree Knight of Columbus. Besides his wife, he is survived by a stepson Jeffrey F. Kurpiewski of North Haven, two sisters, Madelyn Rignoli of West Haven and Frances Santamauro of Seattle, WA, nephews Paul and Joseph Santamauro and Anthony and a niece Maria Rignoli. He also leaves his longtime friend, Bill Kaszeta of Mesa, AZ.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated in the Parish of St. Josephine Bakhaita in the church of St. Elizabeth Seton, Rocky Hill, on Thursday morning at 11 am. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. Friends and family may call on Wednesday from 4 to 7 pm at the East Haven Memorial Longobardi - Brennan Funeral Home, 425 Main St., East Haven, 203-467-1708. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to either the Office of Radio and TV, 15 Peach Orchard Rd., Prospect, CT 06712 or Animal Haven, 89 Mill Rd., North Haven, CT 06473. Please visit John's memorial page at easthavenmemorial.com and sign his guest book.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Rategan, Joel Fenn



Joel Fenn Rategan died unexpectedly on Dec. 28, 2021 with his wife Maryanne D. Rategan, nearby. He was in the hospital for a recurrence of cancer from ten years ago. He was born Dec. 3, 1941 in Connecticut, and had just celebrated his 80th birthday. He spent the earliest years of his life in California and Nevada during WWII with his mother Katherine Fenn Rategan, while his father Leo Francis Rategan was away in the war. Joel remembered owning a pony near the Feather River in CA. When he and his mother returned to Connecticut, they lived in Meriden. He enjoyed fishing and boating with his grandfather, Burton Fenn, and cooking with his grandmother, Anna Wright Fenn. He attended Meriden schools and graduated from Maloney High School in 1961.

Those interests, fishing, boating and cooking, and proficiency in baseball, were integral to his life, even though his pro baseball contract was not fulfilled, as he went into the Army. He served in Vietnam flying civilians out, and later as a medic. In later years, he greatly enjoyed traveling and telling funny stories of his life.

He leaves one child, Mark Fenn Rategan, and grandchildren: Shea, Samantha, Joshua, Mark, and Hannah. he also was fortunate to have great grandchildren too. When he married Maryanne in 1990, he gained more children, Robert G. Dupuis and Patricia D. Semmelroth, and eventually, grandchildren: Cody, Shannon, Mac, Seth, Sabrina, Cheyenne, Lauren and Becca. After his family, he was most proud of chartering a new American Legion post in Middletown, CT. Calling hours will be Monday, January 10, 2022 from 11am to 12pm, with a Funeral Home Service at 12pm at Coventry-Pietras Funeral Home at 2665 Boston Turnpike (rte 44), Coventry. The family is respectfully requesting that masks be worn.

Burial will be at the State Veterans Cemetery in Middletown with military honors on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 12pm. For online condolences please visit www.pietrasfuneralhome.com.

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O'Leary, Richard J.



Richard J. O'Leary (our beloved Popple) of East Windsor peacefully passed on Monday January 3, 2022 with his life-long love of more than 70 years, Marian V. O'Leary close by his side. Richard was born on June 14, 1929 and was raised in Windsor Locks, CT. He graduated from Windsor Locks High School, Class of 1947, where he was a stand-out baseball and basketball varsity letterman. A Korean War Veteran serving his country as an Army Records Specialist, Richard settled in Windsor Locks with his wife Marian, where he raised his family and had a long career as a well-known, trusted bank executive for Northern Connecticut National Bank and the Hamilton Standard (now 360 Federal) Credit Union. For many years, Richard was a dedicated and active member of the Windsor Locks Lions Club where he held many positions, ultimately achieving the national rank of Lions District Governor.

A friend to many, Poppie has enjoyed the last 40+ years as a true Gentleman Farmer on the Sabonis Farm in East Windsor where he was frequently seen having friendly conversations and hardy laughs with many friends and neighbors as he took his breaks from his gardening, farm chores, crooked birdhouses construction, wood chopping, taking long walks and chasing his grandchildren and great grandchildren around the farm. Poppie's gentle nature, thoughtfulness, curiosity, and humorous ways will be greatly missed by many.

An avid sports fan, Poppie faithfully supported the Hartford Whalers, Boston Bruins and Red Sox. He found the most joy cheering on all his grandchildren participating in various sports at all levels. For many years he traveled to rinks across the Northeast cheering on the SUNY Plattsburgh Cougars, Xavier Falcons and Tri-Town hockey teams, where his son, grandchildren and great children coached or played for their respective teams. Richard is pre-deceased by his parents John and Florence O'Leary of Windsor Locks, his brothers Lester and John O'Leary, his daughter Barbara A. Pellegrini and son Brian S. O'Leary.

Poppie is survived by his loving wife Marian, his daughter Sharon M. Gentile and her husband Lou of Delray, FLA, son Kevin J. O'Leary and his wife JoAnn of Higganum, CT, grandchildren Colleen Bava and husband Steve, Paul Dowe and wife Jen, Kevin Dowe and wife Ali, Marissa Gentile, Ashleigh Gentile, Ryan Pelligrini and wife Michelle, Sean O'Leary, Meghan Kenter and husband Linas, and ten great-grandchildren. Richard is also survived by sisters-in-law Theresa O'Leary, Carmela O'Leary, Barbara Sabonis-Chafee, numerous nieces/nephews and his loyal dog, Ginger.

A private service will be held for the family in the coming days at St. Mary's Church of Windsor Locks followed by a private burial at St Catherine Cemetery of East Windsor. Donations can be made in Richard's memory to the Windsor Locks Lions Club by mailing checks payable to Windsor Locks Lions Charity, P.O Box 213, Windsor Locks, CT 06096. For online condolences please visit www.pietrasfuneralhome.com.

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Mickel, Ellen



On January 1, 2022, for Ellen Mickel, 77, of Coventry, the shadows lengthened, the day drew to a close, her work on Earth was completed and into her Creator's loving arms she fell. Born Ellen Carlough on December 26, 1944 in the Bronx, NYC, Ellen was the daughter of Hazel (Smith) Carlough and Thornton Carlough. Her family moved, shortly thereafter, to East Hartford and Ellen attended the city's schools and was graduated in 1962 from East Hartford High School, where she employed her determination and athleticism as a member of the varsity cheerleading squad. Drawn to teaching at an early age, Ellen attained her Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1966 from Central Connecticut State University, where she was again a member of the varsity cheerleading squad. Her first teaching position was as a kindergarten teacher in the former Union School (which she loved) in South Windsor. A natural teacher, possessed of versatility and flexibility, she went on to enjoy a 35-year career as a teacher of virtually every elementary grade level in the South Windsor and Coventry Public Schools.

Her outgoing nature, her infectious laugh, her love of people and her sense of humor enabled her to collect friends wherever she went. Indeed, it was with some of those many friends that she spent several summers working on Cape Cod and the Connecticut shoreline, several winters skiing in Vermont and traveling to a multitude of European countries. For 5 decades Ellen was also a regular attendee, along with her family, of the biennial reunions of the "Carlough Clan". Following marriage, she traveled twice across the United States and the provinces of Canada with her husband and family, as well as trips and cruises to the Caribbean and a return to the countries of Europe. Later, in the company of her husband and wider family, she enjoyed over 30 years at the family cottage on Crystal Lake, in New Hampshire.

An avid collector of recipes, she loved cooking for her family and friends, trying new recipes and for 45 years she and her husband hosted Thanksgiving dinner for their ever-growing family. An equally avid collector of children's literature, she enlivened her classrooms and their children with her engaging reading of books and stories old and new. With equal fervor she delighted in introducing her children and three grandchildren to the joys of reading.

Never an exclusive homebody, Ellen enjoyed being active in her community. She was always proud of the fact that her suggestion was chosen for the name of a new town lakeside park, "Patriot's Park". Ellen's outreach extended to service on the Board of Directors of the Community Child Guidance Clinic of Manchester, as a member of the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library Board in Coventry, various school-parent committees and as a Sunday School teacher at Storrs Congregational Church, where she was a long-time member.

Ellen's faith was quiet, unobtrusive and unshakable believing, as did St. Paul, that "Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

Ellen is survived by her husband of 47 years, Lawrence G. Mickel, daughter Meredith M. Hallgren (Wyatt), son Todd T. Mickel (Erin), step-daughter Susan M. Cunningham (Peter), step-son Peter L. Mickel (Olga), grandchildren Elin and Grayson Hallgren, Harrison Mickel, Holly C. Merullo (Nick), Kelly L. Cunningham (Ryan Marques), brother Keith R. Carlough (Robin) and nieces Amy and Sarah Carlough. Ellen was predeceased by her parents.

The family will receive friends at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Road, South Windsor from 4 - 7 PM on Monday, January 10, 2022. A service in celebration of Ellen's life will be held at the Storrs Congregational Church, 2 North Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Interment will follow in the Carlough family plot at Gilead Cemetery, Hebron, CT.

In lieu of flowers memorial gifts may be made to the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238 or to the Gilmanton Year-Round Library, 1385 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Iron Works, New Hampshire 03837.

For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Driscoll, Marilyn L.



It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Marilyn L. (Holmes) Driscoll on December 31, 2021 with her family by her side. Born October 21, 1942 in New Britain and a lifetime resident of Berlin. Marilyn was the daughter of the late Roland and Mildred (Gregory) Holmes and the wife of her beloved husband of 26 years, Billy

Driscoll.

Besides her husband, Marilyn is survived by her three sons: David Giarratana and his wife Michelle of North Carolina, Michael Giarratana of Kentucky and Steven Woja and his partner, Brenda of Kentucky and a daughter: Sandra Woja of Kentucky, seven grandchildren, six great grandchildren, three sisters: Grace Callegari of Berlin, Alice Bissoni of New Britain and her twin Marion Holmes of Berlin.

She was pre-deceased by three brothers: Philip (Whitey), Robert and Frank. Family and friends may call on Saturday, January 8, 2022 at the Berlin Memorial Funeral Home, 96 Main Street, Kensington from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. followed by a service at the Kensington United Methodist Church on 103 Hotchkiss St., Kensington at 11:00 A.M. Burial will be private.

The family would like to thank the Berlin VNA, especially Dorothy for their wonderful care, and would like everyone to please wear masks when attending the service for Marilyn.

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OBITUARIES

Halligan Jr., Dr. Thomas Joseph



Dr. Thomas Joseph Halligan Jr, 84, long time resident of West Hartford CT, passed away peacefully on Dec 31, 2021. He was born to Thomas "Tim" Halligan and Alice (Hanley) Halligan in Concord, NH on April 6, 1937.

He is predeceased by his wife of 48 years, Julie Kelly Halligan. He is survived by his beloved and devoted sister Linda Skaggs, his five children and 11 grandchildren; Kelly and James Gerbo and their children Nicholas, Alexander, and Matthew; Kathleen and Michael Hanahoe and their children Caitlin, Erin and Ryan; Timothy and Karen Halligan and his daughter Sarah and their son Timothy Jr.; Thomas and Pamela Halligan and their child Kathryn; and Colleen and Jed McCarthy and their children Hallie and Justin.

Tom grew up in Concord, NH and attended St John's High School where he was captain of the basketball team and class President. He attended the University of Notre Dame where he studied pre med and graduated in 1959. Notre Dame held a special place in his heart and he returned there often to attend football games and visit the Grotto to light candles and offer prayers. He graduated from the University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine in 1963. He spent 2 years in service to his country with the Air Force stationed at Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh, NY.

During his childhood Tom spent many happy summers at Camp Fatima in Gilmanton Iron Works, NH, first as a camper and later as a counselor. For many years he was the camp doctor during Exceptional Citizen's Week at Camp Fatima. He was introduced to his future bride on a blind date. Julie was a counselor at the sister camp- Camp Bernadette. All of their children and some grandchildren spent many enjoyable summers at both of these camps. Camp Fatima was Tom's happy place. He enjoyed nothing more than being out on Lake Suncook.

One of Tom's passions was helping others. He was a General Surgeon at St. Francis Hospital for 40 years. He was beloved by his patients, the nurses and the many residents he trained. He was frequently in the hospital spending time with his patients at nights or during holidays.

The back porch at 104 was where he spent much time relaxing, reading his daily stack of newspapers, watching Red Sox games and being available to listen and give advice to the many friends and family that visited.

The family would like to offer their deepest gratitude to "LaLa", his devoted caregiver. She cared for Tom with love and respect during his last year.

Calling hours will be at Molloy Funeral Home at 906 Farmington Ave. in West Hartford on Sunday January 9 from 1- 4 pm. The Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 am at St. Thomas The Apostle Roman Catholic Church at 872 Farmington Ave. West Hartford on Monday. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. There will be a Celebration of Life at Camp Fatima in the summer of 2022. In lieu of flowers the family asks that you consider making a donation to either Camp Fatima (<https://fatimadonation.campbraingiving.com>) or Malta House of Care (<https://maltahouseofcare.org>). Online remembrances and livestream link may be found at www.molloyfuneralhome.com



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McGovern, John P.



Dr. John P. McGovern, 88, died peacefully on December 30, 2021 in Newington, Connecticut. John was born on September 1, 1933 in Brooklyn, NY.

A man of sharp wit and intellect, John grew up in Brooklyn and Richmond Hill; he later graduated from La Salle Military Academy in Oakdale, NY and Fordham University in the Bronx. Fordham held a special place in John's heart, and the Jesuit philosophy of "Men and Women for Others" informed his entire life. He was an Aerial Navigator in the Air Force and was also a dedicated student and educator. He earned both his Master's in Business Administration and Doctorate of Education from Hofstra University. He spent almost four decades at Nassau Community College, where he lived and worked as a Professor and Associate Vice President, before retiring to South Glastonbury, CT. He was committed to his communities and was very engaged civically as a founding member of the Fordham Alumni Club of Long Island as well as the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Long Island. He was a member of the Irish American Society of Nassau and Suffolk, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Irish American Home Society, the Leitrim Society, and served many roles including Grand Knight and District Deputy of the Knights of Columbus.

John was also a devout family man. He was married to the late Ann B. McGovern (Martin) for sixty years, and together they would return to his beloved County Leitrim, in Ireland, as often as they could to visit family and friends. John will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by his family: his three daughters and their spouses, Barbara and Thomas Pescuma of West Islip, NY, Coleen and Victor Antico of South Glastonbury, CT, and Deirdre and Brian Moore of Glen Rock, NJ; his sister, Maureen McGovern; his sisters in law Bridget McGovern and Sister Eileen Martin S.C.; as well as his grandchildren, Thomas and Maria, Nicholas, and Michael Pescuma; Stephen, Jack, and Katherine Antico; Patrick and Anne Moore; and his three great grandchildren, Thomas, Bianca, and Jeremy Pescuma. John was beloved by his nieces and nephew as well as his many cousins both here and in Ireland.

Friends and relatives may pay their respects to the McGovern family, Sunday, January 9, 2022 from 2 – 6 PM at the Fairchild Sons Funeral Home, 1201 Franklin Avenue, Garden City, NY. A Mass of Christian Burial celebrating John's life will be Monday, January 10th at 10:00 AM in the Church of St. Anne, 35 Dartmouth Street, Garden City, NY. John will be interred in the family plot in St. John Cemetery, 80-01 Metropolitan Avenue, Middle Village, NY 11379. The family wishes to express their profound gratitude to the kind and compassionate staff on the Morgan Unit at Jefferson House for the amazing care John received.

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Marrion, Christopher J.



Christopher John Marrion of Dorchester, MA, passed away suddenly on December 30, 2021 while visiting family in Colorado with his husband Randy Weston, a continuation of Christmas celebrations with family in his hometown of Niantic CT. Chris was a cherished husband, son, brother, uncle, friend and colleague. Chris was born in New London, CT on August 27, 1964, the youngest of five children of Robert and Grace (Stone) Marrion, who survive their adored son.

Christopher's lifelong passion for classical music began at a young age. He was more likely to listen to a Gilbert & Sullivan light opera than the Rolling Stones. His passion was cultivated in the East Lyme public school system, where he played trombone in the East Lyme High School marching band. Christopher made deep, lifelong friendships in the school auditorium and playing in the band on the football field. He added the bassoon to his repertoire and after graduation attended the New England Conservatory of Music. Chris followed his love for opera and graduated from the Conservatory with a degree in voice followed by a Master's degree in voice from Boston University.

After his studies, Boston remained his home for almost forty years. While still a freelance musician singing in the U.S. and Europe, Chris began a nonprofit development career. He raised millions of dollars for numerous organizations, including the Boston Lyric Opera, Boston Children's Hospital and AIDS Action Committee. He made some of his closest and deepest friendships at AIDS Action. His loss leaves a hole in the hearts of many whom he met during the AIDS crisis, while they helped those in need in the Boston community.

Chris spent many years under Artistic Director Yo-Yo Ma as Deputy Director of the Silk Road Ensemble. His friends and family could not wait for the latest story of his international travels with Yo-Yo for concert tours, priceless cello in hand. Chris was Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations at the Boston University College of Fine Arts before recently taking on a role he was excited to start, as the Vice President of Advancement for the Hanover Theatre and Conservatory, a historic theatre and presenter in Worcester MA.

Chris was an accomplished baker and an elegant ballroom dancer. He sewed and knit items that friends mistook for the work of designers. His incomparable wit and sense of humor will be missed acutely by so many. Whenever he spoke, it was as though he had scripted his thoughtful and eloquent remarks in advance. The most extraordinary of his gifts may have been his ability to make others feel part of his brilliance and not diminished by it. Chris always knew what was needed to make those around him feel better.

Chris and Randy had been a couple for ten years before they were married in a glorious wedding in their treasured Provincetown, MA, in July 2010, surrounded by family, their huge group of wonderful friends who are so dedicated to one another, and far too many lobsters.

In addition to his parents and husband, Christopher is survived by his siblings and their spouses Ruth, Catherine, Tom, Gwen and Faith Marrion and Bob Doffek, and nieces and nephews Henry, Ray, Sarah, Andrew, Noah, Bob and Olivia to whom he was an amazing uncle, travel buddy, cheerleader, role model and mentor.

Celebrations of Christopher's life are being planned for New London, CT and Boston, hopefully in early March. Please email cjmmemorial2021@gmail.com and we will provide details, a Zoom link and updates if it becomes necessary to reschedule.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Chris in a donation to the Hanover Theater & Conservatory (thehanovertheater.org), AIDS Action (AAC.org), or a charity that is important to you.

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Rendell, Jill (Knuckey)



Jill (Knuckey) Rendell, 78, a long-time resident of Burlington, beloved wife of Noel A. Rendell, passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2022 at home surrounded by her loving family after a brief battle with cancer. She was born December 5, 1943 in Morristown, NJ, the daughter of the late William Knuckey and Mary (Kilfoil) Knuckey, and sister of the late Thomas W. Knuckey. In addition to her husband of 54 years, she is survived by her two daughters, Shannon Cunningham and Robin McClung, as well as her son-in-law Ryan McClung and her four grandchildren, Kelsey and Brady Cunningham, and Molly and Katie McClung. Jill received her Bachelor of Science degree from High Point University in 1966. She spent the majority of her career at the University of Connecticut Health Center as a research associate while also completing her master's degree in public health in 1992. Jill was a long-time, devoted member of the Memorial United Methodist Church in Avon, CT, and served on various committees including chairman of church council and chairman of the memorial garden committee. A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the Memorial United Methodist Church at 867 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001. Arrangements are being handled by The Ahern Funeral Homes, Inc., www.ahern-funeralhome.com.

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Lawlor, Richard "Dick" John



Richard "Dick" John Lawlor, 89, of Windsor, beloved husband for 67 years of Nancy (Beloin) Lawlor, passed away on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at home. Born in Hartford on July 19, 1932, son of the late Clayton and Lucille (Peloso) Lawlor, he was raised in Hartford and attended Hartford Public Schools. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1951 and served during the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1953. Dick returned to Hartford and started working as a heavy equipment mechanic for Bleiler Equipment. There he met Nancy Beloin and the young couple married and ultimately moved to Windsor in 1956 where they raised their five children. Dick left Bleiler Equipment to join a family-owned child portrait business alongside his Dad and his brother Bob, where he would spend the next 20 years. Dick's beloved passion for baseball led him to volunteering as a coach for Windsor Little League and later for its American Legion Baseball teams. In 1977, his longtime friend Dick Teed, a local baseball legend, offered him a dream opportunity to work as a Major League Baseball scout for the Philadelphia Phillies. He traveled around the country scouting AA, AAA, high school, and college baseball players and recruiting new talent. Dick was well respected throughout Major League Baseball for his ability to identify the best young players; he ultimately became a national cross-checker and was awarded the A.B. "Turk" Karam Award as the Hot Stove League Scout of the Year. In 2011, Dick was the inaugural recipient of the Dallas Green Award, which honors a scout who best exemplifies the Phillies' standard for scouting. He retired later that year after a 34-year career with the Phillies. An avid outdoorsman throughout his life, Dick loved hunting and fishing every chance he could. He joined the Windsor Rod and Gun Club in 1964, served several terms as president, and was, prior to his passing, its oldest and longest serving member. During his retirement, he enjoyed taking care of his yard, his flower gardens, and his many home projects. Most of all, Dick will be remembered as a family man who loved, more than anything, spending time with his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A devout Catholic throughout his life, Dick was a parishioner of St. Damien of Molokai Parish-St. Joseph Church in Poquonock for many years. Besides his loving wife, he leaves five children, Jay Lawlor and his wife Beth of Windsor, Sharon Bosco and her husband Richard of Windsor, Cynthia Lawlor and her partner Robert Russell of Bloomfield, Jennifer Daddario and her husband Raymond of Suffield, and Terence Lawlor and his wife Sharon of East Granby; 12 grandchildren, Jay Lawlor, Jr. and his wife Marcia, Andrew Lawlor and his wife Bernadette, Elise Cosker and her husband Brian, Analie Bosco, Elena Fago and her husband Randy, Michelle Kula, Kevin Kula, Brian Daddario, Karen Steele, Michael Lawlor and his fiancé Taylor Peck, James Lawlor, and Robert Stickels and his wife Kiana; eight great-grandchildren, Matthew and Olivia Lawlor, Mason and Grady Cosker, Carley and Chloe Fago, and Jacob and Aubrey Steele; a brother, Robert Lawlor and his wife Maureen of Hampton; a special cousin, Mary Jane Babbitt of East Granby; many nieces and nephews, and many cherished friends. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law Joan and Henry Griffin. A private Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Damien of Molokai Parish-St. Joseph Church followed by a private Burial Service with Military Honors in St. Joseph Cemetery, Poquonock. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in his name may be made to Hartford Healthcare Department of Philanthropy, Attn: Heart Failure and VAD Program, Hartford Hospital, 80 Seymour Street, P.O. Box 5037, Hartford, CT 06102-5037 or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Carmon Windsor Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements. For online condolences, please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Bennett, Carl

The Yeshiva University's Board of Trustees is profoundly saddened by the passing of Carl Bennett of blessed memory, who together with his late wife, Dorothy (Becker) Bennett, were Benefactors of Yeshiva University. They established the Carl and Dorothy Bennett Chair in Pastoral Counseling at the Wurzweller School of Social Work in tribute to their spiritual leader, Rabbi Joseph H. Ehrenkranz z"l of Congregation Agudath Sholom in Stamford, Connecticut. In addition, they became founders of the Sy Syms School of Business with a major gift for scholarships for deserving students. Their contribution to Yeshiva University, which was announced in their synagogue, inspired many other families to support YU. Heartfelt condolences are extended to Carl's three children—Marc of Stamford, Robin (Joseph Kanarek) of Greenwich, and Bruce (Jennifer) of Rochester, New York—and his five grandchildren. May the entire extended family find comfort among all who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem. Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University Professor Richard M. Joel, President Emeritus Adam Z. Gerdtz, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Rabbi Dr. Herbert C. Dobrinsky, Vice President for University Affairs

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OBITUARIES

Day, John M.



John Milton Day, 86, of Kensington, CT passed away peacefully on January 2, 2022. John was born in Brooklyn, NY on January 4th, 1935, the only child of John Milton Day Sr. and Dorothy (Bridgham) Day. He was raised in Rhode Island and spent summers on Cape Cod at his grandparents' house. John attended high school at Fishburne Military School in Virginia. He then attended the University of Maine in Orono, where he earned a BA in Business and Economics and was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. After college John was stationed in New Jersey while serving in the US Army. It was during this time that John met his beloved wife Ruth at a USO dance in New York. They married in 1959 and had four children, moving to their house in Kensington, CT in the early 1960s. John spent his career in sales of industrial chemicals, first at Allied Chemical Company and then later at Hubbard Hall in Waterbury, CT. John had an infectious smile, funny sense of humor, and lived his life with enthusiasm. He loved to meet people and took a genuine interest in everyone he met. John raised his children with a sense of adventure and passed on his love of the outdoors to them. In addition to his treasured family time, John had many hobbies and interests. He was active in Toastmasters Club and volunteered with his son's Boy Scout troop, leading camping and backpacking trips. One of John's lifelong joys was "living off the land", including gardening in his backyard, scuba diving for fish on Cape Cod, deer hunting and winemaking. John retired from Hubbard Hall at age 59 and thoroughly enjoyed retirement. He led an investing group at his local library for over 15 years, sharing his interest and knowledge of the stock market with fellow retirees. John continued to scuba dive until he was 70 and then took up fly fishing. He never lost his sense of adventure, he tried paddle boarding on the Farmington River at age 79 and continued fly fishing into his 80s. John loved spending time with his family, gathering for picnics and hikes and teaching his treasured grandchildren how to garden and fish. John leaves behind his loving family, including his beloved wife of 62 years, Ruth (Nyberg) Day, daughters Lisa Day of Southington, CT, Sally Mahoney and her husband Paul of New Hartford, CT, Brenda Day and her partner Audrey Suseno of Farmington, CT and grandchildren Elsa Mahoney, Erin Mahoney and Shane Hurley. He was predeceased by his son Peter Day. Services and burial will be held privately on Cape Cod. John's family wishes to thank the doctors, nurses and staff at the Hospital of Central Connecticut for their care and compassion to John and his family. Please share a memory of John with the family in the online guest book @ www.ericksonhansenberlin.com

ERICKSON-HANSEN
Berlin

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Conceicao, John M



John Manuel Conceicao, loving husband, brother, and father, passed away at home on December 30, 2021 at the age of 67. John was born on September 27th, 1954 in the village of Serra De Santo Antonio, Portugal to Albino and Maria Conceicao. In 1955, John and his family departed Portugal and relocated to São Paulo, Brazil, where John's father operated a bar for a time. The family (now including John's sister Luisa) relocated again in 1964 to Montreal, Quebec, Canada, before settling in Hartford, CT in 1966. After leaving high school and working at Mozzicato DePasquale Bakery and a local machine shop, John relocated to Vancouver, British Columbia and subsequently Seattle, Washington, where he would learn the trade of concrete paver installation. John founded Expert Stone Paving, a small company installing pavers in residential, commercial, and industrial settings for which he was owner/operator, with the business moving along with him to the Dallas Metroplex and once more to Connecticut in 1989, where he resided in Colchester until 2006. The later years of John's life were spent in Phoenix, Arizona, where he briefly entered automotive sales before his health and the economy deteriorated, and he entered retirement. John and his wife, Holly Erickson, later married on May 8th, 2009.

John defied many expectations: while he operated a construction business and had not completed his high school education, he still found time for more intellectually challenging pursuits such as oil painting, gardening, and Western philosophy. John bought a modem in the mid 80s prior to any established internet service providers existing and simply "figured out" how to get online: he was an early adopter for all sorts of technology from car phones to smart watches. For much of his life, John was an ardent cyclist and had an interest in sailing. He also attended both the original and 1994 Woodstock music festivals, spoke three languages fluently, and traveled through North America extensively during his life.

John is survived by: his loving wife, Holly (Avondale, AZ), his parents, Albino and Maria Conceicao (Easley, SC), his sister Luisa (Rich) Chmielecki (Easley, SC), two children; son Alan (Meredith Prince) Conceicao (East Lansing, MI) and daughter Cindy Conceicao (Redmond, WA), 3 grandchildren; Sierra Reicks (Cozad, NE), ShyAnne Lawson (Escondido, CA), and Kevin Krueger (Killeen, TX), 3 nieces; Lauren (Michael Cavanagh), Kelly (Christopher Cumberland), and Stacy (Mario Teixeira), and one nephew; Richard (Dr. Sarah Andiman). John was an organ donor and was cremated at his request; a Celebration of Life will be scheduled for a future date due to the COVID-19 pandemic; those interested in attending should email johnconceicaocelebrationoflife@gmail.com for more information when it is made available.

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Lombardi, Anthony Francis

Anthony Francis Lombardi, age 83, of Mansfield, PA, passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at The Gatehouse in Williamsport, PA. He was born on May 2, 1938 in Hartford, CT, a son of Pasquale and Angelena (Mazzio) Lombardi. Anthony and his wife, Margo Helen (Jarvis) Lombardi, would have celebrated 62 years of marriage on June 25, 2022. He was a police officer in Hartford, CT and US Marshall in Springfield, MA. He was a veteran of the United States Army. Anthony enjoyed shooting sports. Anthony is survived by his wife; two sons, David Lombardi of Jacksonville, FL, and William Lombardi of West Hartford, CT; a daughter, Bonnie (Gary) Mikalson of Enfield, CT; two grandchildren, Anthony and Nicholas; two great grandchildren, Jack and Neco; a brother, Pat Lombardi of Cape Cod, MA; and a sister, Sandra (Joseph) Lionetti of Weathersfield, CT. He was preceded in death by his parents. Friends and family are invited to call on Monday, January 10, 2022 from 2-4pm at Buckheit Funeral Chapel and Crematory, Inc. 637 S. Main St. Mansfield, PA. www.buckheiftcandcrematory.com

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Jarrett, Cheryl J.



Cheryl Jacqueline Jarrett (West) passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2022 in Bloomfield, CT surrounded by family and close friends. She was predeceased by her mother, Mary Lou West (Crooms). Survived by her husband of 30 years James Jarrett, son Marcus Jarrett and daughter Kya Jarrett, father Rufus West Sr. & wife Iva West, sister Roberta "Toby" Williams and husband Charlie Williams, brother Rufus West Jr. & wife Tina West, mother in law Alease Jarrett, uncle Roland Brown and aunt Dorothy "Dot" Zellous, nieces Chelsea Williams & Brittany Crooms, nephews Jamaal Williams, Torrence West & Kristopher Williams. Great nephews, extended family and friends. A memorial service will be held on Saturday January 8, 2022 via zoom at 3:00 pm. MEETING ID: 756 524 8156 PASSWORD: 067744 Arrangements entrusted to Carmon Funeral Home, to leave condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneral-home.com



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Szymkowicz, Stanley J.



Stanley J. Szymkowicz, 62, formerly of Rocky Hill, Connecticut, passed away peacefully on January 1, 2022 with his wife Rosemarie of 40 years by his side. Stan loved to go fishing, hiking in the woods, being surrounded by nature, and looking for wildlife. He was liked by anyone who had the pleasure to meet him and had many longtime friends who he enjoyed talking to on the phone often. Especially his best friend, Tim Aubin. Stan is survived by his loving wife Rosemarie, three beautiful daughters Stephanie, Heather, and Ashley, four incredibly special grandchildren Cecelia, Zoey, Hunter, and Penelope; four sisters Lorraine, Joyce, Cheryl, and Sue; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his loving Grandmother, Mary. She held a special place in Stan's heart and was a positive influence throughout his life. His father Joseph, his mother Eunice and his brother Joseph, Jr. In honor of Stan's request, there will be no services, and his wish was to be cremated, with his ashes to be set free. To leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit www.autumngreenfuneralhome.com The Autumn Green Funeral Home is respectfully handling arrangements.

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Mucha, Michael Joseph



Michael Joseph Mucha, 34, of East Granby, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at his home. Born and raised in East Granby, CT, he was a graduate of East Granby High School and Westfield State University. Michael loved fishing, hunting, music, riding his motorcycle, and was also a very talented artist and musician. He was a past member of the East Granby Fire Department, the East Granby Police Explorers, and many other organizations. Michael is survived by his parents, Daniel and Diane Mucha; his brother, Nicholas Mucha all of East Granby; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins spread throughout the country. His family will receive friends on Monday, January 10, 4-7 p.m., at the Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home 364 Salmon Brook St., Granby. Burial will be private in Elmwood Cemetery, East Granby. Memorial donations may be made to Connecticut Children's Foundation, Inc., Attn: Memorial Gifts, P.O. Box 412901, Boston, MA 02241-2901 or by visiting www.connecticutchildrensfoundation.org. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Dunham, Leona C. (Griswold)



Leona "Lee" Cook (Griswold) Dunham passed peacefully at home on December 29, 2021, following a brief health struggle, just 4 short months after her love, The Rev. Arthur H. Dunham. Known as Lee to some, Leona to others and "my little Eonie" to her dad, Lee was born in Rocky Hill, CT November 7, 1933, to Leonard Cook and Betsey (Thompson) Griswold. One of 7 children, she grew up on the family farm, Sunny Crest Dairy Farm, in Rocky Hill. Part of her farming responsibilities were candling and collecting eggs, teaching calves to nurse from their mother or bottle and then weaning them when old enough, driving the tractor during hay bailing season and delivering milk to various homes and business in Rocky Hill, Cromwell and Wethersfield. She attended Wethersfield High School and Hartford Secretarial School. After graduation Lee worked at CBT in Hartford where she worked her way up to head bookkeeper and was responsible for training new employees. Since she was old enough, Lee loved to sing. It was her passion. From church choir member, director of church junior choir, Manchester Symphony Choir, South Windsor Community Chorus, weddings, funerals, and any other occasion that was requested, she was there, sharing her beautiful voice with others. Her favorite song was "Oh Holy Night" which she would sing at the Christmas Eve Service each year. Even in her final days, we could hear her humming.

In 1957 at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, she met and eventually married the love of her life and best friend, the Rev. Arthur H. Dunham. She always said that the very first time she saw him in the church hall, not even knowing who he was, that "he is the man I am going to marry" and she did on June 20, 1959. It was a marriage that lasted 62 years until his passing 4 months ago on September 7, 2021. Throughout her life Lee held many positions and titles, but that of Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother were the most important to her. Lee loved her family and cherished each and every moment spent together whether it was a holiday, birthday, anniversary, back yard picnic, simple dinner or just a drop in "hello". Hosting the entire Griswold, Dunham and extended family summer get togethers brought her pleasure.

Aside from being the minister's wife and the numerous responsibilities that came with it, she raised 4 children, taught Head Start while 3 three oldest children were in kindergarten, second and third grade, belonged to the PTO, filled in as church secretary, worked with her sister at IDS, directed youth choir, worked with both the junior and senior pilgrim fellowship groups at each church they ministered to, past Vice President of the UCW of the First Congregational Church, member of the Wednesday Afternoon Club, a member of the MCC Organization of Active Adults, completed a course in Continuing Pastoral Education at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MA, was a Retired Clergy Events Coordinator and did annuitant visits with Art to retired pastors for the Pension Board Connecticut Conference United Church of Christ, received a 10 year certificate for her participation in the Girl Scouts, and filled in for Art as "Mrs. Minister" at various South Windsor police, fire, ambulance and town functions when he was unavailable. Lee loved animals and in her spare time house broke and trained our 2 family dogs as well as a dog for one of Phils friends so he would be able to keep her. She also loved to house sit her "four legged Doberman grandchildren" when Tricia was away....they all knew who "grandma" was.

After Art's retirement, they were able to travel and enjoyed numerous trips to Maine, England, Germany, Greece, Eastern Europe, Alaska and Iceland, to name a few, with wonderful friends.

Lee leaves 3 children - Phil (Alison) Dunham of Tolland, CT, Tricia Dunham Russo of Manchester, CT, and Keith (Chelle) Dunham of Birch Bay, WA, 2 grandsons Wallace and Malachi, 4 great grandchildren Caleb, Collin, Casey and Dustin, her sister Ruth (Griswold) Peters of MN, sisters-in-law Leona Griswold of Wethersfield, CT, Marcia Creighton of Weymouth, MA and Verna Durling of Hingham, MA, brother-in-law Robert VanScoyk of Ogden, UT, cousins, many nieces and nephews, and so many close and dear friends.

Besides her husband, Lee was predeceased by her daughter Sandra Dunham Hart, granddaughter Melinda Hart and great granddaughter Rowan Leona Hart, 2 brothers Raymond (and wife Barbara) and Howard Griswold, 3 sisters Margaret (and husband Robert) Sheldon, Helen Griswold and Mary Louise VanScoyk, brother-in-law Bill Peters and lifelong family friend Eleanor Mahar who was like a sister.

Lee's children also wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to Suzanna who lived with and cared for mom. She kept mom laughing and made the last month of her life the best it could be. It gave us peace knowing that she was safe and in the most caring hands. We also wish to thank the Nurses and staff of Vernon Hospice for their care and help. She would not have had the quality of end of life she had without them. Prior to September, she was cared for by the staff of Visiting Angels for a little over a year. We also wish to thank the several caregivers for their work and companionship with mom especially through dad's illness.

Family will greet guests at calling hours at Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home 419 Buckland Road, So. Windsor on Sunday January 9th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. (covid protocols observed) with a prayer service taking place at 3:00 in the funeral home. A graveside burial, open to family and friends who wish to attend, will take place in Center Cemetery, 993 Main Street, South Windsor at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 10th. Due to concerns in the rise of Covid; Phil, Tricia and Keith have made the decision that a Celebration of Lee's Life church service will take place later in 2022, when the flowers are in bloom and the birds she loved to watch and listen to will be singing, at First Congregational Church South Windsor. A reception to greet family and friends will take place at that time. Further information will be provided as plans are made. Memorial donations in Lee's name may be made to South Windsor Congregational Church, 993 Main Street, South Windsor, CT 06074. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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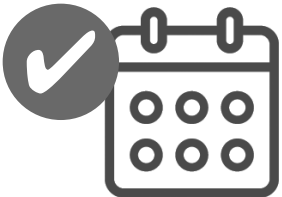
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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Omicron alters college comebacks

UConn, Wesleyan, Yale among universities delaying student return, moving some classes online amid variant surge

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

Several colleges and universities across Connecticut are delaying the return of students and moving early spring semester classes online as new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations reach record highs.

UConn, Wesleyan University and Yale

University are among the institutions adjusting their schedules in hopes of softening the blow of the highly transmissible omicron variant.

UConn, the largest school in the state, announced last week it would conduct classes online for the first two weeks of the semester, set to begin on Jan. 18, and delay its move-in period to Jan. 29.

“This is subject to further change based on the course of the pandemic,” interim President Andrew Agwunobi wrote in a message to the university community.

UConn also plans to require eligible students to receive booster vaccinations, Agwunobi wrote.

“The measures described above are critical: in order to reopen, resume in-person

classes, and stay open during the spring semester, the university needs to welcome back a healthy population,” the university wrote.

Yale University has already done so. On Dec. 19, the university notified students that those eligible will be required to receive a

Turn to Delays, Page 2

Town leaders seek mask mandate

Lamont receives pleas as cases spike

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

Officials in several Connecticut communities are calling on the governor to issue a statewide mask mandate as COVID-19 cases spike, but some have stopped short of establishing local mandates.

Leaders of East Hartford, Manchester, Windsor Locks and South Windsor met to discuss a regional directive on masks, according to a news release sent Wednesday. They encouraged Gov. Ned Lamont to mandate masks across the state “as we enter a period of escalating transmission, hospitalization and death,” the release said.

Connecticut reported a 24% COVID-19 test positivity rate Tuesday, surpassing a record set Monday, while also setting a new high mark for cases recorded in a single day.

But the release continues, “While the increasing rate of transmission locally warrants such a mandate, our communities are stopping short of mandating masking and instead will continue our policy of masking within town-owned buildings while concurrently, in the strongest terms possible, encourage all residents and every local business to adopt masking in their home or place of business.”

“We are asking for a state-wide policy,” East Hartford Mayor Mike Walsh said, “because locally, a patchwork of decisions have been made which lends itself to confusion on a topic where consistency better serves the public.”

Lamont has resisted calls

Turn to Masks, Page 2



Gov. Ned Lamont receives his first dose of the Pfizer vaccine in February at The First Cathedral church in Bloomfield. Some municipal leaders are calling on Lamont to issue a statewide mandate on masks.

COURANT FILE PHOTO



Alicia Brown painted the Three Kings Day mural on Pratt Street in Hartford. HARTFORD BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

THREE KINGS DAY

Holiday tradition thrives with mural

Puerto Rican celebration alive despite pandemic

By Susan Dunne | Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The three kings have arrived on Pratt Street in Hartford, just days before Three Kings Day, which is today. New Britain artist Alicia Brown created a mural celebrating the magi, in celebration of Día de Los Tres Reyes Magos, which is a beloved annual celebration in the city’s Puerto Rican community.

Brown’s mother is Puerto Rican. Brown’s father is Jamaican. In the biracial household where she grew up, the day also had two meanings.

“Jan. 6 is my mom’s birthday. So we celebrated it as a birthday, but a religious birthday,” Brown said. “She got presents, we got presents. She’d tell us a few stories and we’d go to church.”

The creation of the Three Kings mural at 46 Pratt St., along with a mural celebrating Kwanzaa by David Jackson of Bristol at

54 Pratt St., is part of an effort to diversify Pratt’s traditional winter decorations.

Brown’s mural also was created in a spirit of diversity. One magus, in blue robes with brown eyes, has light-colored skin and carries gold. The second, in red robes with brown eyes, has darker skin and carries myrrh. The third, in green robes and with blue eyes, has even darker skin and carries frankincense.

Turn to Three Kings, Page 2

Manchester woman, 21, missing for two weeks

Sister says ‘not like her’ to just vanish

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

Sherrian Howe, 21, does not look her age, a relative said Wednesday of the petite woman who has been missing from Manchester for two weeks.

Howe is 5 feet 1 and weighs about 105 pounds. She is “very timid,” her sister, Anthea Howe-Denize, said. “She’s not an assertive type of person,” Howe-Denize said. “And if you see her, she looks like a 13- or 14-year-old.”

Police boosted the case to a silver alert Dec. 29, spokesman Lt. Ryan Shea said, after “information was recovered which led investigators to believe she may have had suicidal ideations at some point prior to her disappearance.”

A pharmacy technician who works at a Walgreens in Manchester, Sherrian was attending college in Hartford with the goal of becoming a pharmacist. She was living with her brother in Manchester, close to her job, family members said.

Sherrian’s brother was supposed to drop her off along with his son at Howe-Denize’s Springfield home Dec. 21 for a holiday visit, but she was nowhere to be found and did not answer phone calls or emails.

The last communication was an email sent to family members at 12:42 p.m. Dec. 22. A screenshot of the email that Howe-Denize shared showed the message from Sherrian’s account, “I’m fine just need a break from everything.” Howe-Denize replied, “Thanks for reaching out. Be careful out there but come home soon please.”

Sherrian was not in a relationship, her sister and sister-in-law, Nyesha Howe, said.

The 2008 Nissan Versa that Howe-Denize said she bought for her sister last year was found Dec. 28 in a parking lot off Main Street in Windsor Locks, police said. Sherrian’s laptop and other belongings were found at a nearby hotel in Windsor Locks, Howe-Denize said.

Nyesha Howe reported Sherrian missing Dec. 21. She said Sherrian had worsening depression and was not eating well. Nyesha Howe said she had access to information that allowed her to track Sherrian’s credit card purchases and found that between Dec. 21-23, a card was billed for \$35 for Domino’s Pizza and another \$35 at a seafood place in East Windsor.

“She wouldn’t be buying \$35 worth of Domino’s,” Nyesha Howe said.

She agreed with Anthea Howe’s description of Sherrian as timid and said she had no social life. Sherrian left messages on Christmas cards that seemed out of character, Nyesha Howe said. One card said, “I hope you have a good life.”

Nyesha said police will not answer questions and she fears they are not devoting enough resources to the search. But Shea said, “We’re doing everything we can with the information we have.” He urged anyone with information to call police at 860-645-5500.

Asked if she thinks her sister is safe, Howe-Denize said, “I honestly don’t think she is. Her phone’s off. ... This is not like her.”

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.



Howe

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CONNECTICUT

State gives \$34M in relief to workers hurt by COVID-19

By Keith M. Phaneuf
CT Mirror

New state Comptroller Natalie Braswell and the leaders of the General Assembly's Labor Committee launched a \$34 million relief program Monday for essential workers affected by the coronavirus. The program, which is accepting applications through July 20, covers lost wages, out-of-pocket medical expenses and burial costs tied to COVID-19 and incurred

between March 10, 2020 and July 20, 2021. "Frontline workers made immense sacrifices to keep our state functioning during the pandemic," said Braswell, who became the state's chief fiscal guardian last week when Comptroller Kevin P. Lembo retired due to illness. "This relief program represents an opportunity to return the favor, offering critical financial assistance to workers who contracted COVID-19."

The program is open to hospital workers, first-responders, grocery store workers, bus drivers, corrections employees and others who could not work remotely and maintained vital services during the pandemic. Details are available online at www.ctessentialworkerrelief.org. The relief effort was sparked by surging case-loads in the state's Workers Compensation program, which hovered around 3,000 during the worst of the

pandemic, according to state Rep. Robyn Porter, D-New Haven, and Sen. Julie Kushner, D-Danbury, co-chair of the Labor and Public Employees Committee. Lawmakers agreed to use \$34 million from last fiscal year's budget surplus to launch the relief program. And while both Porter and Kushner said they're confident it will help thousands of households, they also said it can't alleviate all of the fiscal distress the coronavirus

placed on these households. "Is it enough? Absolutely not," Porter said. "But a little bit goes a long way." "We posted signs of thanks, called essential workers 'heroes' — I'm sure it was appreciated, but it simply wasn't enough," Kushner said. Essential workers can apply to recover a portion of the wages they lost. Benefits also can cover medical or burial expenses for an essential worker.

Benefits will be provided on a first-come-first-served basis, and both Porter and Kushner conceded the program funds might be exhausted before all eligible applicants receive some relief. The benefit for replacing lost wages is capped at \$1,446, which Braswell said reflects the average weekly earnings in Connecticut. Replacement of burial expenses is capped at \$3,000 per applicant.

WEATHER FORECAST

State to get 1-4 inches of snow Friday

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

The first snowstorm of 2022 will arrive in Connecticut early Friday morning, dropping up to 4 inches. The storm will be "quick-moving," said Gary Lessor, chief meteorologist with the Connecticut Weather Center at Western Connecticut State University. It will be over by the time the morning commute wraps up.

What time will it arrive? Snow is expected to fall between midnight Thursday and 9 a.m. Friday. The snow will move generally from west to east, so "it will be ending in western Connecticut probably about sunrise," he said.

How much snow will fall? The storm is predicted to drop 1 to 4 inches statewide, Lessor said early Wednesday afternoon. The National Weather Service forecast later called for 2-5 inches.

What kind of snow will it be? The snow will be light and fluffy, the kind that's easier to shovel, he said.



Town worker Kevin Teets shovels snow from the steps of the George Maxwell Memorial Library last year. The first snow storm of 2022 will drop up to 4 inches Friday. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

Any other weather events on the horizon? The weather next week will be extremely cold, Lessor said. Expect highs in the 20s and low 30s on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Lows will be in the teens and single digits.

With the wind chills, it will feel like it's around zero, he said — and that's during the day. At night, Lessor said, "it could be below zero." *Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.*

Connecticut man wanted in Ledyard killing arrested by marshals in Georgia

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

A Georgia-based task force of U.S. Marshals arrested a Connecticut man Wednesday morning in connection to a Nov. 2, 2021, fatal shooting in Ledyard. Steward Holeman, 34, who police said has former addresses in New Britain and Hartford, was taken into custody by the U.S. Marshals South East Regional Fugitive Task Force in Jonesboro, Georgia. Ledyard police accuse Holeman of fatally shooting Malik S. Nunn, 27. Responding officers found Nunn lying unconscious on Robin Lane, a road in Ledyard, and took him to Backus Hospital in Norwich

for treatment. Police quickly identified Holeman as a suspect, and said he was last seen in New London. Ledyard police soon sought assistance from the U.S. Marshals Violent Fugitive Task Force, an agency based in Connecticut. Together, the law enforcement agencies identified Holeman in Georgia. Holeman is being held at the Clayton County Sheriff's Office in Jonesboro, Georgia. He will face charges of murder and criminal possession of a pistol in Connecticut, pending his extradition to the state. *Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com.*

Delays

from Page 1

booster vaccination before returning to campus ahead of the spring semester. Days later, Yale announced it will delay the start of the semester to Jan. 25, and will use Jan. 18-21 to conduct online makeup exams. Beginning Jan. 25, classes will be held online for two weeks. In-person instruction will begin again on Feb. 7 with the return of faculty and staff to campus. "We thank each of you for your flexibility during this dynamic moment in the pandemic," Yale officials wrote in a message to the university community. "We also are grateful to Yale's medical, public health, and nursing experts and to faculty and staff leaders for helping us make these decisions." Yale has enacted some of the strictest quarantine requirements for returning students. Vaccinated, boosted students can return between Jan. 14 and Feb. 4 but are asked to follow a campuswide quarantine until at least Feb. 7. Students are not allowed to visit local businesses or restaurants, even to eat outdoors, except for curbside pickup, the Yale Daily News reported. In Middletown, the start of spring classes at Wesleyan will be delayed until Jan. 27. Classes that



Students walk by the C.J. Huang Recreation Center at Central Connecticut State University. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

Thursday and Friday will be online, with in-person instruction slated to begin Jan. 31. "This will allow students to be tested for COVID-19 at Beckham Hall, and receive results, before they return

to in-person learning," the university wrote.. In Hartford, Trinity College and the University of Hartford plan to begin the semester as previously scheduled. "As of now, we are opti-

mistic that by taking every precaution together, we can open on time and in person," University of Hartford officials wrote in an update. Athletic events will be limited to those within the university community for

the first two weeks of the semester, but classes will go ahead as normal. The university is also requiring the booster vaccine for all eligible students, staff and faculty. Western and Central

Connecticut State University moved classes online this week, citing the increase in COVID-19 cases. *Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com.*

Three Kings

from Page 1

"I wanted them all to look a little bit different," she said. Then she laughed. "But when I look at them, they all look like my brother." Brown, 29, is an entrepreneur, a "certified therapeutic art life coach." Her company The Art Child ([facebook.com/TheArtChild](https://www.facebook.com/TheArtChild)) offers classes, online and in person, for children and adults. Brown said she is going to spend Three Kings Day introducing her boyfriend, who is not Puerto Rican, to the annual tradition. "He said, 'you're supposed to get gifts on this day?'" she said.

Three Kings Day

Traditionally, Día de Los Tres Reyes Magos is celebrated in Hartford with a procession of the Three Kings riding camels on Park Street. The parade, which attracts thousands of spectators every year, was canceled last year and is canceled again this year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Last year, a traditional toy giveaway was canceled, too. This year, the toy giveaway — with kings but not camels — will be held for children ages 1 to 10 on Jan. 6 at 45

Wadsworth St. Registration is closed for the event. "They can get their toy and take a picture with the three kings. We want to keep the tradition of giving toys to children. But that is all there is this year because of the situation right now," said Nilda Morales of the Institute for the Hispanic Family at Catholic Charities in Hartford, which presents the toy giveaway in conjunction with the Spanish American Merchants Association (SAMA). Julio Mendoza of SAMA said celebrating the day is important because it instills the tradition in children. "It celebrates our history, and allows the kids to always remember the three kings. We want them to grow up believing in the three kings and when they have families, to continue this tradition," Mendoza said. "It's tremendous to see the faces of the kids, how they look at the kings and believe in them." He added that Día de Los Tres Reyes Magos celebrations show Hartford that Puerto Ricans "are part of the city." "Our culture is very important to us, and very dear. We want everyone to celebrate the three kings together," he said.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Masks

from Page 1

to issue a statewide rule. "I don't want to put a lot of counter-pressures on and rebellion and people fighting back against it," Lamont said Monday. "I prefer that everybody wear the mask when you're indoors. We're getting N95 masks available to anybody, no questions asked. I think we're on the right track right now." West Hartford Mayor Shari Cantor also called for a statewide mask mandate Wednesday, as the town reinstated its own local mandate. "COVID-19 does not stop at municipal borders, and our hospitals and health care delivery systems are all regional assets that serve multiple communities. There should be one common statewide and regional standard," said Cantor in a release. Bloomfield also issued a townwide mask mandate, effective Thursday, that requires any person, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask when within six feet of other people in any indoor public place. Bloomfield joins Hartford and New Haven. In calling on the state to mandate masks

while holding off on local mandates, South Windsor Town Manager Michael Maniscalco said he and other town leaders want the weight of the state behind enforcement. By not making statewide masking the rule, the governor "has created a scenario that is unenforceable," Maniscalco said. Just last week, he said, police had to escort a person from town hall because he refused to wear a mask. The man was pressing his right to go mask-less and has now been marked as a trespasser and will not be allowed to re-enter the building, Maniscalco said. The incident, he said, illustrates the difficulty in enforcing townwide mask rules. People have called police to report someone not wearing a mask "in aisle 10 in Target," Maniscalco said, but waited until they returned home to make the complaint. "What are police supposed to do?" he said. "It's very, very challenging." Maniscalco stressed, however, that the town supports businesses that establish their own mandates on masking and social distancing. *Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.*

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

Amato's toy store, a downtown institution in New Britain for more than 60 years, is shutting down and developer Avner Krohn plans to replace it with a six-story, upscale apartment building.

Steve Amato, co-owner of one of Connecticut's few remaining independent toy retailers, announced Wednesday that he and his wife, Sheri, will close the business in late February and retire.

"My friends are my customers, and that's going to be the hard part — the relationships. But I've been doing this full time since 1974," Amato said Wednesday afternoon. "I'm 65 now. I'm tired."

Generations of parents around Greater New Britain were turning to Amato's for birthday gifts and Christmas presents long before Toys R Us nearly cornered the U.S. toy market, and the store has continued well after the national chain folded.

The business dates to 1940, when Vincent Amato founded Amato's Toy and Hobby Center in Middletown. He added stores in New Haven, Waterbury and New Britain and built a reputation for an extensive stock, with a special focus on model kits for building miniature plastic airplanes, ships and cars. By the time he retired, the chain had just two stores: Vincent Amato's daughter took over the Middletown location and his son, Steve, ran the New Britain one.

By then, both stores were destinations for toy shoppers from around central Connecticut and serious hobbyists from across southern New England.

“Amato’s Toy and Hobby is a landmark business in our city and has been a source of cherished memories for so many,” Mayor Erin Stewart



Amato's Toy and Hobby has been in operation in New Britain for more than 60 years . **YELP**

said Wednesday afternoon. "Steve and Sheri Amato have been pillars of our community for decades."

The 22,000-square-foot shop was the centerpiece of the 2017 Lifetime movie "A Very Merry Toy Store," and Steve Amato recalls how it made even bigger headlines 34 years before that.

In the midst of the 1983 Cabbage Patch Kids craze, the two Amato's stores were each scheduled to receive 12 of the wildly popular dolls in late November. An advertising flier announced they'd go on sale one morning at 9:30 a.m. He arranged for the dolls to arrive in an armored car.

“The night before when I went to close up, there were two guys in the lobby. I said ‘They go on sale at 9:30,’ and they said ‘we know, we’ll wait,’” he recalled.



Amato's Toy and Hobby in New Britain, seen in this 2020 file photo, is packed with toys and known for its collection of model kits. The store is closing after 60 years. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

“The next morning they were still there on the sidewalk, there was a local councilman and his wife and babysitting in beach chairs waiting. We gave

out numbers to the first 12 people and it all went OK," Amato said. "There were TV trucks everywhere, we were on the news in Texas."

The store's last day will

be Feb. 28; the separately owned Middletown store will continue as is.

Amato plans to sell the Main Street building to Jasko Development, the company that is building a six-story apartment building next door. City leaders consider that project, called The Brit, as transformational for downtown, particularly because it replaces a long-abandoned bank building that occupied a prominent street corner.

On Wednesday, Avner Krohn, Jasko's owner, confirmed that he plans a sister building to The Brit on the site of Amato's. City records show the two-story Amato's building dates to 1925, and both Amato and Krohn said it has significant defects and would be expensive to restore.

Jasko plans to acquire two

“My friends are my customers, and that’s going to be the hard part — the relationships. But I’ve been doing this full time since 1974. I’m 65 now. I’m tired.”

— Steve Amato, co-owner of Amato's Toy and Hobby

adjacent buildings and level them along with the Amato's structure.

“Those buildings are in need of millions of dollars of repair, and no retailer is coming to take 12,000 to 20,000 square feet. If we didn’t do this, they’d just sit there for the next couple of decades,” Krohn said.

Instead, Jasko plans a modern six-story building along Main and curving back along Columbus Boulevard.

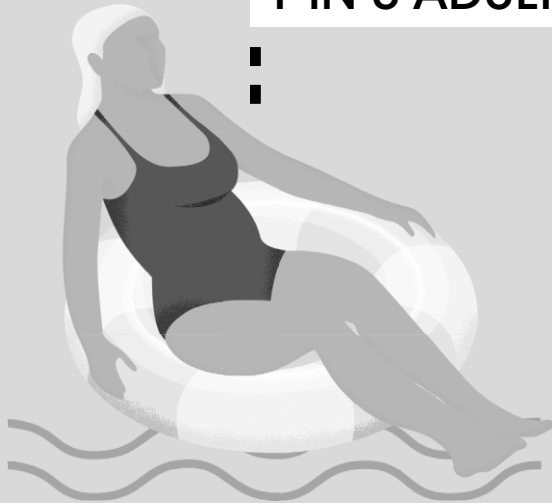
It would be a virtual twin to The Brit, but with a few stylistic changes, Krohn said. It will have more than 100 market-rate apartments, primarily a mix of one- and two-bedroom units, and first-floor retail with a restaurant.

"We're in the early stages of design, but this will be a significant project — north of \$20 million," he said. "The units will have 10-foot ceilings. There will be rounded glass on the corner, and an outside dining space set aside for a restaurant," he said.

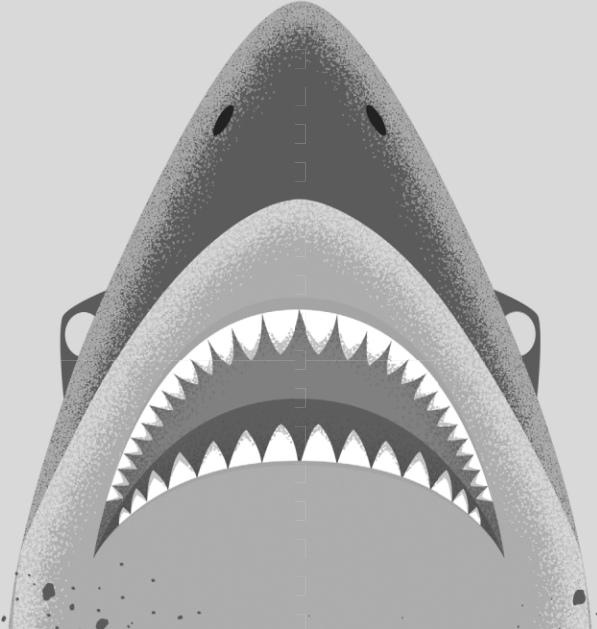
If everything goes smoothly, Krohn expects to complete The Brit by the first quarter of 2023, with the second building done about six months later. Krohn said the new one hasn't been named yet.

"It will likely have something to do with toys to pay tribute to Amato's," Krohn said.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF John T. Talbott (21-0792)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Rosemary L. Nolin, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Pauline T. Talbott
c/o KERRY E KNOBELSDORFF-MCKAY, KNOBELSDORFF LAW OFFICE, LLC, PO BOX 809, OLD SAYBROOK, CT 06475

1/6/22 7120339

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Donald James Ramsey, Sr., Late of Higganum (21-0768)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Dora Ramsey
c/o JEAN M D AQUILA, DAQUILA LAW OFFICES, LLC, 100 RIVERVIEW CENTER, SUITE 205, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

City of Bristol, Connecticut INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that the Purchasing Department for the City of Bristol, Connecticut is accepting sealed responses on the following:

2022-004 Bulky Waste Truck and Telescopic Boom and Grapple; bids due January 21, 2022 at 1:00 pm
2022-055 Annual requirements for Permanent Patching of Utilities in City Streets; bids due January 24, 2022 at 1:00 pm

Sealed responses via the QuestCDN online bidding system will be accepted until the due date and time as noted above. The City reserves the right to waive informalities in bid responses, and to accept any or all bid responses, if in its judgment the best interests of the City will be served. Submission of bid documents are subject to a \$15.00 bid posting fee payable to QuestCDN, the cost of which shall be borne solely by the bidder.

The successful bidder shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Plans and specifications can be obtained online at the website below, or by contacting:

City of Bristol Purchasing Department
111 North Main St. Bristol, CT 06010
Tel. (860) 584-6195
Fax (860) 584-6171
<http://www.bristolct.gov/bids>
1/6/2022 7118468

Request for Proposals 2P22-061

DESIGN OF RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS AT CASEY FIELD AND E.G. STOCKS PLAYGROUND

The City of Bristol ("the City") is seeking a qualified firm to prepare construction documents toward renovations and improvements at Casey Field and the adjacent E.G. Stocks playground, as defined within the City Wide Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services Master Plan.

Proposal submission documents are available at no charge by downloading from the City of Bristol web site via the following link:
<https://www.bristolct.gov/Bids.aspx?BidID=1094>

Proposal submissions will be accepted by the Purchasing Department until January 26, 2022 at 1:00 pm; submissions received after this date and time will not be considered. The City reserves the right to waive any informalities in any submission, to reject any and/or all submissions, and to accept the proposal that in its judgment is in its best interest. Interested firms are required to submit one original copy via digital media of the proposal to the Purchasing Department no later than the date and time noted above. Submissions may be made via email, shared file service, or USB drive; the City does not assume responsibility for failure of submissions to be received by the City by the date and time noted above.

The awarded firm will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Roger D. Rousseau, Purchasing Agent
City of Bristol Purchasing Department
111 North Main Street
Bristol CT 06010
Tel. (860) 584-6195 / Fax (860) 584-6171
rogerrousseau@bristolct.gov
<http://www.bristolct.gov/bids>
1/6/22 7120174

Request for Proposals 2P22-059 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATIVE TO DEVELOPMENT OF CULINARY ARTS FACILITIES AT BRISTOL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AND BRISTOL EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL

Bristol Board of Education is seeking to hire a professional firm toward the development of construction documents toward the construction of two culinary arts labs and educational centers at its high schools.

Proposal submission documents are available at no charge by downloading from the City of Bristol web site via the following link:
<https://www.bristolct.gov/Bids.aspx?BidID=1096>

A non-mandatory pre-proposal submission site visit will be held at Bristol Central High School on January 19, 2022 at 3:00 pm; interested firms are requested to meet at the rear entrance to the cafeteria (see attached site map indicating entrance location). The attendees will then reconvene at Bristol Eastern High School; interested firms are requested to reconvene at the front office entrance on the south side of the building.

Proposal submissions will be accepted by the Purchasing Department until January 28, 2022 at 1:00 pm; submissions received after this date and time will not be considered. The City reserves the right to waive any informalities in any submission, to reject any and/or all submissions, and to accept the proposal that in its judgment is in its best interest. Interested firms are required to submit one original copy via digital media of the proposal to the Purchasing Department no later than the date and time noted above. Submissions may be made via email, shared file service, or USB drive; the City does not assume responsibility for failure of submissions to be received by the City by the date and time noted above.

The awarded firm will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Roger D. Rousseau, Purchasing Agent
City of Bristol Purchasing Department
111 North Main Street
Bristol CT 06010
Tel. (860) 584-6195 / Fax (860) 584-6171
rogerrousseau@bristolct.gov
<http://www.bristolct.gov/bids>
1/6/22 7120325

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Stephen A. Doerrer, Late of VENICE, FLORIDA (21-0800)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Matthew J. Doerrer c/o SUNDEEP GILL HARPER, FARRELL, GEENTY, SHEELEY & BOCCALATTE, PC, 205 OLD BOSTON POST ROAD, OLD SAYBROOK, CT 06475
1/6/22 7120275

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF John William Andrews, Late of Clinton (21-0772)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 3, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
John Frederick Andrews, 1801 38th Ave. #3, San Francisco, CA 94122

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF CROMWELL ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Cromwell Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing and Meeting at 6:30 pm on Tuesday January 11, 2022 in the Council Chambers at the Cromwell Town Hall at 41 West Street on the following item:

1. Application #21-16: Request for Variance from Section 2.2.B Bulk Requirements of the Zoning Regulations (Side Yard Setback, Aggregate Side Yard Setback and building coverage ratio) to allow for the construction of two car garage on the side of the house at 9 Ridge Road. William & Rebecca Coons are the Applicants and the Owners.

At this hearing interested parties may appear and be heard and written testimony received. The application is on file in the Planning and Development Department office at 41 West Street, Cromwell, Connecticut.

Joseph Morin
Chairman

Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this 23th day of December 2021.
12/30, 1/6/2022 7115342

City of Bristol, Connecticut INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that the Purchasing Department for the City of Bristol, Connecticut is accepting sealed responses on the following:

2A22-062 Wastewater Sludge Disposal Services; bids due January 25, 2022 at 1:00 pm

Sealed responses via the QuestCDN online bidding system will be accepted until the due date and time as noted above. The City reserves the right to waive informalities in bid responses, and to accept any or all bid responses, if in its judgment the best interests of the City will be served. Submission of bid documents are subject to a \$15.00 bid posting fee payable to QuestCDN, the cost of which shall be borne solely by the bidder.

The successful bidder shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin. The Contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment without regard to their race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Plans and specifications can be obtained online at the website below, or by contacting:

City of Bristol Purchasing Department
111 North Main St. Bristol, CT 06010
Tel. (860) 584-6195
Fax (860) 584-6171
<http://www.bristolct.gov/bids>
1/6/22 7120632

LEGAL NOTICE OLD SAYBROOK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Old Saybrook will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room located at 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook and via teleconference

Public Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/96174417686?pwd=Zk1kNmV2VlI3VVV1TUNINEZRS5SQ0T09>
Meeting ID: 961 7441 7686
Meeting Passcode: 302302
Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866
One Tap Mobile: tel://9294362866,,96174417686#
to hear the following:

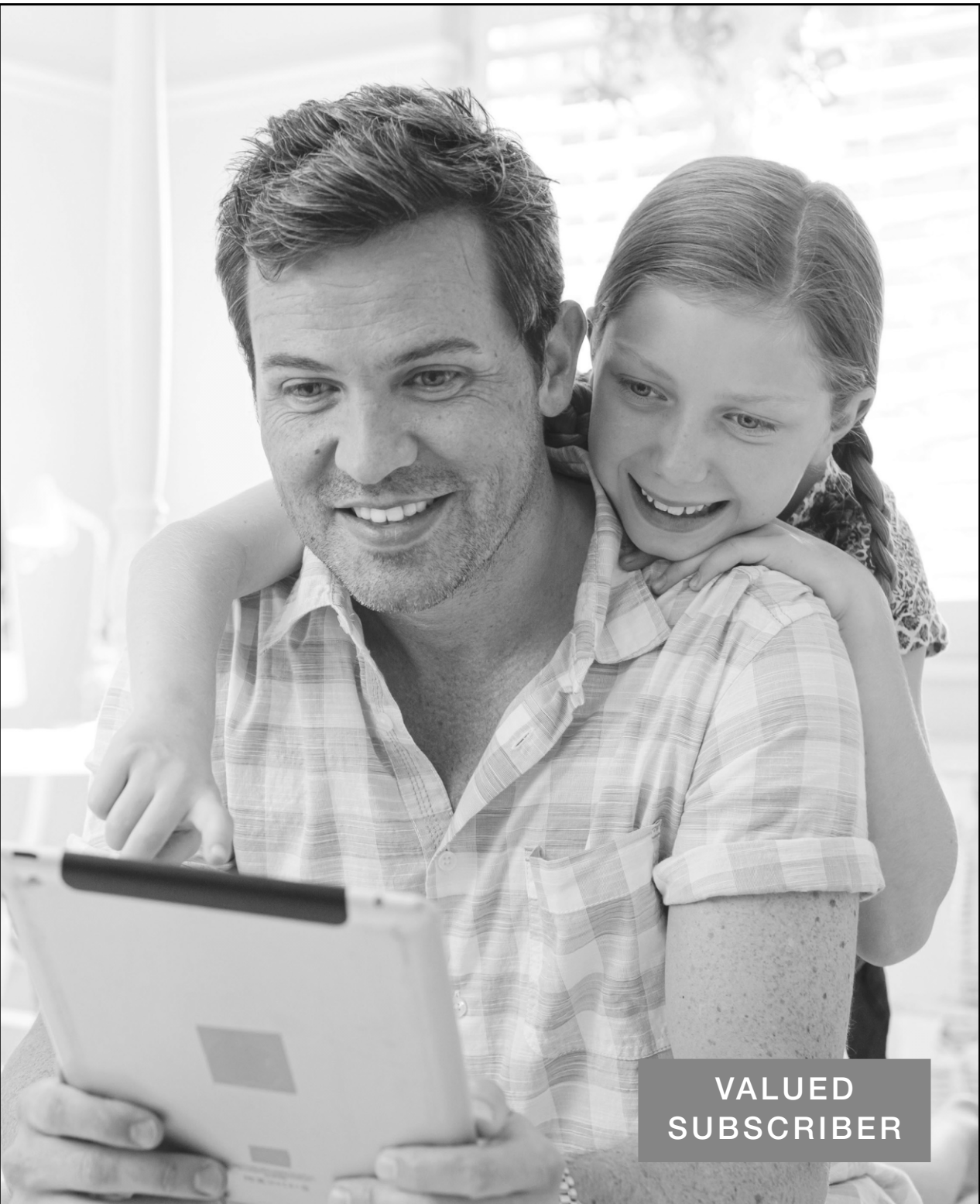
21/22-11C Alan Weil seeks a variance of Par. 58.2.1 (riparian buffer setback/100' required/21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) and Par 58.6 (setback Gateway Conservation Zone/100' required/21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) and Par 68.1.2.B.9 (tidal wetland setback/50' required/ 21.8' to pool, 15.8' to pool patio & 8' to grading/landscaping proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the renovation of an existing pool, removal of concrete patio around pool and installation of patio partially greater than 6" above existing grade with landscaping at 9 Cedar Lane, Map 16/Lot 65, Residence A&2 District, Coastal Area Management Zone, Gateway Conservation Zone.

21/22-12 Lisa & Mike Donovan seek a variance of Par 10.7.1 & 10.7.2 (non-conformity enlargement/change); Par 24.5.1 (street line setback/25' required/21.4' to Church St. & 19' to Willard Avenue Ext. proposed); Par 24.6.2 (structure coverage Gateway Conservation Zone/15% allowed/15.1% proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the construction of a 264 s.f. attached garage at 70 Church Street, Map 24/Lot 25, Residence A District, Coastal Area Management Zone, Gateway Conservation Zone.

At this hearing, interested persons may appear or submit written communication in advance.
Plans are available for review in the Land Use Department, 302 Main Street and at oldsaybrookct.gov/zoning-board-appeals
12/30, 1/6/2022 7105067

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Challenge Yourself with Sudoku EVERY DAY in Living



Rickey Buggs, who was born with sickle cell, shows his mother, Lametra Scott, his homework after school Dec. 10 at their home in Nashville, Tennessee.
MORGAN HORNSBY/THE NEW YORK TIMES

FEW TAUGHT SICKLE CELL MATH

By Gina Kolata
The New York Times

No doctor ever counseled Lametra Scott and her husband, Rickey Buggs, to get a simple blood test that would have warned them they each carried a mutated gene that — if inherited from both — would cause sickle cell disease in their baby.

It was only after a routine blood test around week 16 of her pregnancy that she learned she had the gene. Buggs, honorably discharged from the Marines around the same time, was informed upon leaving that he, too, was a carrier.

They went forward with the pregnancy, hoping their baby would be spared, but luck was not with them. Rickey, his father's namesake, was born with sickle cell, a blood disorder that would cause him searing pain throughout a life likely to be cut short by the disease.

"At that moment, my life changed forever," said Scott, 40, a pharmacist in Nashville, Tennessee.

Rickey, now 9 years old, has frequent episodes of intense pain, usually in his shins. Stiff, sickle-shaped red blood cells get caught in his blood vessels, blocking the flow, damaging their linings and causing pain because cells are deprived of oxygen-carrying blood.

His mother massages his legs with oils, applies heating pads, gives him pain relievers and takes him to the hospital

Couples rarely receive genetic consulting or simple blood test that can warn if parents face 1 in 4 odds of having a baby with the disease

when the pain is unbearable, and she tries to instill him with the resolve to be strong and take each day as it comes.

But she's haunted by a question: What if she'd known before she got pregnant that her child might be born with sickle cell?

About 100,000 people in the United States have the disease, which mostly affects Americans of African descent, but also people of Hispanic, Indian and Mediterranean ancestry. Yet few of the couples at risk for having babies with sickle cell know it.

A person who inherits the mutated gene from just one parent has what is called sickle cell trait, not the disease itself. But if both partners in a couple have the trait, there's a 1 in 4 chance that their baby will inherit it from both of them and have sickle cell disease.

There is no routine testing of adults for the trait. Medical science is fast approaching a cure for the disease — one that would almost certainly cost more than \$1 million per person — but the fractured American medical system does not ensure that parents-to-be get a simple, inexpensive blood test that would inform them if they carry the sickle cell trait.

"In my view, sickle cell represents the worst and best

of health care," said Dr. Elliott Vichinsky, a sickle cell expert at the University of California, San Francisco. "We have developed new therapies and molecular testing, but people don't get them."

Dr. Michael R. DeBaun, Rickey's doctor, who heads a center for sickle cell treatment and research at Vanderbilt University, said that to his knowledge, "None, I mean none of the quality measures in U.S. medicine address the concept of preconception genetic counseling as a metric of standard care."

Guidelines from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists say couples planning to have a baby should be tested for the sickle cell genetic mutation, but Dr. Steven Ralston, chief of obstetrics at Howard University and past chair of the group's committee on genetics, said testing before pregnancy was rarely done.

"Part of it is an educational problem," he said. "The guideline hasn't trickled down to people."

Sickle cell experts say what happened to Scott and Buggs was an outrage that is still all too common.

Scott and Buggs were in shock when they learned their baby had the disease. She turned to Facebook, looking for support groups.

"People were always in the hospital, always dying," she said. "My baby is only a couple of months old. Is this what is going to happen to him?"

"I started praying really, really hard," she said.

She and her husband have devoted themselves to caring for Rickey. Sickle cell is a way of life for him — he can't even remember when he first realized he had it. His mother coaches him to live each day as it comes.

"I tell him, 'You can be your own spokesperson and tell your own story,'" she said. "If your mind is in the right place, you can get through everything."

His parents hope he will be free of sickle cell one day. "I know that in his lifetime there will be a cure," Scott said. "I am praying it will be before he turns 21."

It sounds so obvious. Why not just test all adults for the sickle cell trait? But it's anything but simple. In the United States, Black people with the trait have faced discrimination.

As recently as the early 1980s, people with the trait were barred from the Air Force Academy and charged much higher rates for life insurance.

"Genetic counseling, difficulties with insurance coverage and employment

restrictions raised the specter of discrimination, racism and even accusations of genocide," said Keith Wailoo, a historian at Princeton University.

The fraught history of the disease in the U.S. has complicated efforts to devise a public health strategy to test and inform those who have the trait.

Routine genetic tests of newborns detect not just sickle cell disease but also sickle cell trait. If a baby has the trait, that means at least one parent has the mutation. Both parents should be counseled and tested to see if future children are at risk of having sickle cell disease.

But it is up to each state to decide what to do with the newborn screening results. Practices vary — greatly. Most states' guidelines say the baby's pediatrician should be told if the child has sickle cell trait — but the information chain can end there.

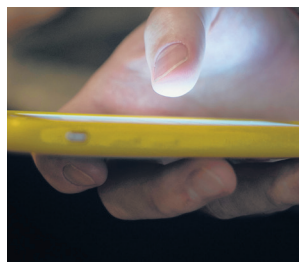
Often, especially in big cities, said Dr. Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, president of the Sickle Cell Foundation of Ghana and an emeritus professor at the University of Pennsylvania, the baby is cared for in a public health clinic with no assigned pediatrician at birth. Test results are noted in the mother's chart, with no follow-up.

And despite the guidelines, pediatricians may not be informed, said Mary Brown, president of the California Sickle Cell Disease Foundation. The test results "might just sit on a shelf," she said.

Federal officials look to smooth transition to 3-digit suicide phone hotline

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Associated Press

People in crisis and those trying to help them will have a new phone number — 988 — to reach the national suicide prevention network starting in July. Federal health officials recently announced more than \$280 million to smooth the transition from the current 10-digit number to three digits. The new 988 number will also



JENNY KANE/AP 2019

handle text and chat.

"We know that remembering a three-digit number beats a 10-digit number any day, particu-

larly in times of crisis, and I encourage every state to rev up planning to implement 988 for the sake of saving lives," Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said in a statement.

Mental health experts are hoping that the three-digit number will deliver a breakthrough in assisting people in crisis who may otherwise try to harm themselves.

People who call, text or chat 988 will be able to reach trained counselors

who belong to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network. Counselors at more than 180 local centers listen to people in crisis and provide support, connecting them with other services as may be needed. According to the Lifeline, the new dialing code will be available throughout the country starting July 16. The network currently relies on a 10-digit number, 800-273-TALK (8255), to route calls to crisis centers. Of the \$282 million

recently announced, \$177 million will go to bolster and expand the existing crisis network's operations and telephone infrastructure, including centralized chat and text response, backup capacity and a sub-network for Spanish-speakers. The rest of the money, \$105 million, will go to build up staffing at local call centers.

Suicide had been the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S., claiming more than 47,000 lives in 2019,

but dropped to 11th in 2020, mainly due to the coronavirus pandemic, which killed at least 345,000 Americans and became the nation's No. 3 killer.

Suicide attempts result in more than 300,000 people seen in hospital emergency departments for self-harm injuries. Rates of suicide rose steadily over much of the last 20 years, and it remains a leading cause of premature death for people from their teens well into their 50s.

CELEBRITIES



Meghan, duchess of Sussex, and Prince Harry on Sept. 23 in New York. **SETH WENIG/AP**

Meghan nets 1 pound from lawsuit

From news services

The Duchess of Sussex will receive a nominal 1-pound, approximately \$1.35, payment for invasion of privacy plus undisclosed damages for copyright infringement, under an agreement that ends her long-running dispute with Britain's Mail on Sunday over the tabloid's publication of a letter she wrote to her father.

The terms were reported by the Guardian newspaper on Wednesday, 10 days after Associated Newspapers Ltd., publisher of the Mail on Sunday, decided to forgo further appeals and published a statement acknowledging that Meghan had won her lawsuit. The Mail on Sunday's statement, which appeared Dec. 26, said "financial remedies have been agreed" but provided no details. The undisclosed damages for copyright infringement will be donated to charity. The tabloid will also shoulder legal fees.

The settlement marks the end of a lawsuit filed after the Mail on Sunday published a series of stories in 2019 based on a personal letter Meghan

wrote to her estranged father after her marriage to Prince Harry. Meghan sued Associated Newspapers for misuse of private information and copyright infringement.

'Jeopardy!' champion Schneider robbed: "Jeopardy!" champion Amy Schneider was robbed at gunpoint over New Year's weekend in Oakland, California. Schneider tweeted about the robbery, saying she was shaken up but otherwise OK.

"Hi all! So first off: I'm fine. But I got robbed yesterday, lost my ID, credit cards and phone. I then couldn't really sleep last night, and have been dragging myself around all day trying to replace everything," the Oakland resident said in her post.

Oakland police said in a statement they were still investigating the armed robbery that occurred Sunday afternoon and had not yet made any arrests.

Schneider is the first transgender contestant to qualify for the Tournament of Champions.

The game show issued a statement saying, "We were deeply saddened to hear about this incident, and we reached out to Amy

privately to offer our help in any capacity."

Globes going ahead with no host, no stars: When the Hollywood Foreign Press Association hands out this year's Golden Globe Awards on Sunday, there will be no TV show, no stars and no host.

On Tuesday, the HFPA revealed its plans for the 79th edition of the awards, which will be held at the Beverly Hilton. With the Globes pulled off the air by NBC for 2022 and Hollywood continuing to hold the HFPA at arm's length while it undertakes promised "transformational reforms," this year's ceremony will not be broadcast and will have no audience, emcee or red carpet.

The HFPA offered no details about a possible livestream on Tuesday.

Jan. 6 birthdays: Accordionist Joey, the CowPolka King, is 73. Actor Rowan Atkinson is 67. Singer Kathy Sledge is 63. Actor Norman Reedus is 53. TV personality Julie Chen Moonves is 52. Actor Rinko Kikuchi is 41. Actor Eddie Redmayne is 40. Comedian Kate McKinnon is 38. Actor Diona Reasonover is 30.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Good guests have their own responsibilities

Dear Amy: During the climate of hibernation and cautious socialization, it's appropriate to prioritize your family's well-being. But may I say something in defense of hard-working hosts as well?

After a two-year hiatus, we restarted our annual Christmas party.

Asking guests to "vaccinate or hibernate" and other clear measures were taken. And of course, anyone uncomfortable should have politely declined.

I still ran into the same rudeness that has befuddled me since I began hosting social gatherings years ago, so I thought I'd share a few ground rules.

Maybe during this downtime, we've forgotten the "Duties of a Good Guest":

- You're a guest, so act like one. Be a sparkling conversationalist. Or wear a festive sweater we can discuss. Bring a fun gift or story to tell. Guests do have an obligation to not sit silent and sullen. It's a party, folks.

- If you cannot make it, immediately and politely decline the invitation. A lot of time and resources go toward planning a party, and your hosts will appreciate this.

- Show up! Nothing stuns me more than the guests who enthusiastically respond, ask to contribute to the menu and then fail to arrive. Parties are not akin to restaurant reservations that you can cancel at the last minute when something more attractive comes along.

The pandemic has created a decline in the social skills of our young. Let's lead by example in

demonstrating how to be a good guest.
— *Harried Hostess*

Dear Harried: I appreciate your "Good Guest" tips. Now, I'd like to add to/refute some of them.

Amy's "Duties of a Good Guest":

- Pay attention to your health. Always remember that people you come in contact with at a party might also have an elderly/compromised/unvaccinated family member in their daily lives.

- If you are not feeling well or have just learned that you were recently exposed to someone with an active case of COVID-19, regardless of your own vaccination status, give the host a call — even at the last minute — and let them know that you won't be able to make it.

- Don't proselytize or publicly challenge other guests' health-related choices.

- Introduce yourself by name to people you haven't met and ask them a question or two. Listen to their responses.

- If you are feeling sad, lonely, pensive or not-particularly "sparkling" on the night of the party — you can sit next to me.

Dear Amy: I have two children: a daughter (41), who is divorced, and a son (42), who is married but has no children.

My complaint is not with them, but with so many grandmas around who quiz me about my lack of grandchildren.

I usually answer them by saying I don't know what my adult children's plans are.

This is followed by being

inundated by pictures of their grandchildren.

I am happy for them, but just want to yell "stop."

Any thoughts?
— *Not a Grandma in Jersey*

Dear Not a Grandma: You might offer a more definitive statement by responding, "Oh, I think that ship has sailed."

Your real complaint seems to be the fact that you are overwhelmed by looking at pictures of other people's grandchildren.

One way to try to stem the tide would be to say, "I'd love to see one more picture of your cutie pie, but then let's catch up!"

Dear Amy: I'm responding to the letter from "Against Gift Lists." This mom was completely against providing gift lists to her in-laws.

I was exactly the same as her! This year was the first year since my childhood lists to Santa that I actually provided a gift list.

It was amazing, I wrote down how I wanted silver, so my grandpa went and gave silver coins for everyone in the family. Apparently, he's been collecting silver for years. He showed me his collection, and we talked for hours.

— *Pro List*

Dear Pro List: I've received a surprisingly large response to the idea of gift lists, with readers coming down fairly equally on both sides.

Your story is a real treasure. Thank you!

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'Harry Potter' reunion plays like making-of documentary

By Christi Carras
Los Angeles Times

There's no such thing as magic, but seeing the cast of "Harry Potter" together on screen for the first time in a decade comes pretty darn close.

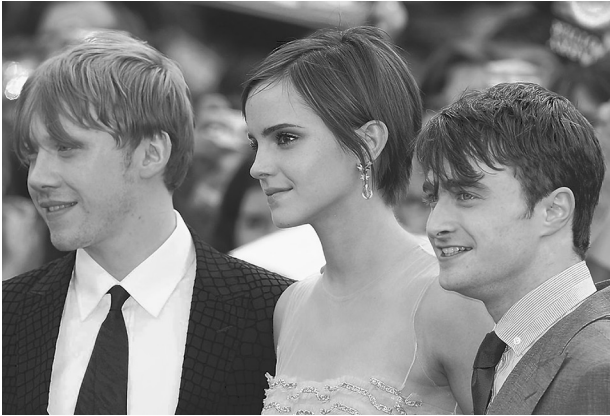
After weeks of anticipation, "Harry Potter 20th Anniversary: Return to Hogwarts" is now available to stream on HBO Max, celebrating 20 years since the first film in the franchise hit theaters.

Taped at Britain's Leavesden Studios — now a museum where fans can tour original sets from the "Harry Potter" films — the reunion special features new interviews with a number of Hogwarts alumni, including Tom Felton (Draco Malfoy), Bonnie Wright (Ginny Weasley), Matthew Lewis (Neville Longbottom), Robbie Coltrane (Rubeus Hagrid), Ralph Fiennes (Lord Voldemort), Helena Bonham Carter (Bellatrix Lestrange) and Gary Oldman (Sirius Black).

And of course, no "Harry Potter" reunion would be complete without the main trio: Emma Watson (Hermione Granger), Rupert Grint (Ron Weasley) and Daniel Radcliffe (Harry Potter).

Over the span of nearly two hours, the special mixes and matches various cast members on several ornately dressed sets, such as Gringotts Bank, the Weasley Burrow, Professor Dumbledore's office and the Great Hall — where the longtime friends sip Champagne and exchange hugs to the familiar tune of John Williams' sweeping score.

The production also includes key commentary from all the "Harry Potter" directors — Chris Columbus, Alfonso Cuarón, Mike Newell and David Yates — on their respective films,



Rupert Grint, from left, Emma Watson and Daniel Radcliffe appear in the HBO Max reunion special "Harry Potter 20th Anniversary: Return to Hogwarts." **IAN GAVAN/GETTY 2011**

from "Sorcerer's Stone" to "Deathly Hallows: Part 2."

Much of the reunion special plays like a making-of-"Harry Potter" documentary, featuring a mix of solo interviews and archival footage that functions as a nostalgic time-turner for viewers.

For every personal anecdote, there is a behind-the-scenes clip: Of the child actors messing around on the set of "Sorcerer's Stone"; of Richard Harris dancing in costume as Albus Dumbledore; of Oldman mentoring his on-screen godson, Radcliffe, in real life.

Not all of the footage is new. But some things — such as Radcliffe, Grint and Watson's screen test for "Sorcerer's Stone" — never get old, especially when paired with commentary from the filmmakers and the golden trio themselves.

"They were testing us with various different configurations of Ron, Harry and Hermione," Radcliffe recalls. "I remember there was one where they put all the three of us together."

"When it was the three of us, something felt different and right and easy," Watson adds. "I do remember the click."

Toward the end of the special, the actors and

creatives pay emotional tribute to Harris, Alan Rickman (Severus Snape), Richard Griffiths (Vernon Dursley), John Hurt (Mr. Ollivander), Helen McCrory (Narcissa Malfoy) and other members of the "Potter" family who have died since "Sorcerer's Stone" was made.

The most moving moment of the special comes when Grint and Watson express how much they mean to each other.

"The way it feels for me now, seeing you here, having had time apart — I'm trying not to get emotional," Watson says. "It feels like you're a pillar of my life."

"Even though we don't see each other all the time, it's a strong bond that we'll always have," Grint says, pulling Watson in for a hug. "I love you."

The closing remarks of the special come, appropriately, from Harry Potter himself, Radcliffe.

"There are people on these films that are foundational to who I am, as a person, as an actor," he says.

"I feel so lucky to be where I am and to have the life that I have and be able to work with people I work with now. But none of it is possible without this."

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Money and self-confidence could seem to be linked for you at this time — having a breakthrough with one might make you feel better about the other. Money isn't everything. Remember that you have value as a person no matter what.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Something you post on social media today could really resonate with others, and you may be surprised at the response. With the practical, grounded nature your sign is known for, you might think that you're just stating the obvious. Sharing your personal experiences may be just the reminder others need.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You may be attracted to the security of following an authority-approved and definitely safe path at the moment. However, you might also have more complicated feelings about whatever's happening. Keep the peace by making some adjustments in a gentle way.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Friends might share some interesting ideas with you now. You may worry that these new thoughts contradict some current beliefs that you've been relying on for your sense of security. However, the gulf between new and old might be smaller than you think!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): The quiet knowledge that someone else has your back can give you the confidence to move forward toward your goals at this time. However, you may be better off talking to them directly rather than just assuming on your own that they're on your side.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Someone talking with you one-on-one could challenge your thinking in a way you wouldn't be likely to hear out otherwise. When the conversation is just between you and one other person, you are responsible for your own position. You need to rely on realistic potential outcomes of both points.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Attention to detail can help you shape a winning collaboration. Working together in a balanced way may get you far better results than working alone at this time. You may be tempted to do everything yourself to guarantee that it will be up to your standards.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Engaging with someone else who may seem a bit out there can help you express your own individuality better. While what you'd like to share may not be identical to what the other person is talking about, you might get some helpful pointers from paying close attention.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Making a permanent change to your routine can be difficult. You could put items you're trying to avoid in storage, if you aren't ready to get rid of them entirely, or you might place reminders of an activity you want to do more often in a very visible location. Out of sight is out of mind!

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may have been developing a greater interest in expressing your individuality lately, and today could be a good opportunity to share that with the people around you. However, don't be surprised if others already figured things out on their own. Words aren't the only form of communication.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Home life could have some surprises for you at this time, but you can feel proud of yourself if you rise to the occasion. Though you may be grateful to find that your finances are already flexible, today's events might give you some ideas about what you could be doing better.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Coincidences could be especially exciting for you now, and you might wonder if they have a deeper meaning. You may also be more attuned than usual to any undercurrents around you. It could help you find just who you need to attract like a magnet. Enjoy your encounters.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Jan. 6, 1412, tradition holds that Joan of Arc was born in Domremy.

In 1838, Samuel Morse and Alfred Vail gave the first successful public demonstration of their telegraph.

In 1919, Theodore Roosevelt died at age 60.

In 1974, year-round daylight saving time began in the United States.

In 1994, figure skater Nancy Kerrigan was clubbed on the leg by an assailant at Detroit's Cobo Arena.

In 2001, Congress formally certified George W. Bush

the winner of the 2000 presidential election.

In 2021, supporters of President Donald Trump smashed their way into the Capitol to interrupt the certification of Democratic Joe Biden's victory, forcing lawmakers into hiding; most of the rioters had come from a nearby rally. Congress reconvened hours later to finish certifying the election result.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

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| BOGGLE POINT SCALE |
| 3 letters = 1 point |
| 4 letters = 2 points |
| 5 letters = 3 points |
| 6 letters = 4 points |
| 7 letters = 6 points |
| 8 letters = 10 points |
| 9+ letters = 15 points |

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| YOUR BOGGLE RATING |
| 1151+ = Champ |
| 101-150 = Expert |
| 61-100 = Pro |
| 31-60 = Gamer |
| 21-30 = Rookie |
| 11-20 = Amateur |
| 0-10 = Try again |

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST SIX UNITS OF TIME in the grid of letters.

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: strictly ballroom

258

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

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| BALL | JITTERBUG | POSTURE | SWIVEL |
| BEAT | JIVE | PROJECTION | TANGO |
| CARRIAGE | LATIN | QUICK | TEMPO |
| CHOREOGRAPHY | LEADING | SALSA | TIMING |
| CONTROL | LINES | SAMBA | TURN |
| DROP | LOWERING | SHADOW | TWIST |
| DYNAMICS | MAMBO | SLOW | WALTZ |

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TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

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Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/3/16

ACROSS

- Garrett of "Everybody Loves Raymond"
- Alice's boss
- "The Amazing ___"
- Role on "All in the Family"
- Allen and his son Peter
- "The Bold ___ Beautiful"
- Tupperware tops
- Liza's mom
- Cochlea's place
- "___ Given Sunday"; Al Pacino movie
- Stir-fry pans
- Used a loom
- Rivers or Collins
- Obama's running mate
- Curry and Cusack
- Alan or Diane
- Walked the floor
- Sir ___ Guinness
- BPOE members
- "For ___ the Bell Tolls"
- "Grand ___ Opry"
- TLC's "I Didn't Know I ___ Pregnant"

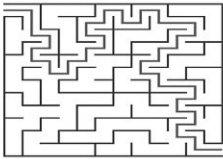
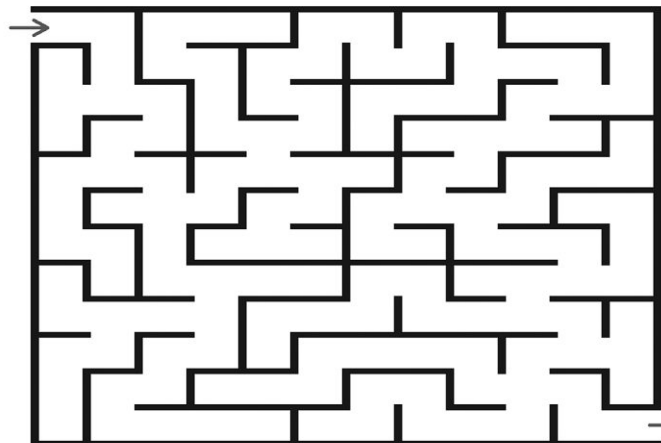
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1/3/16

DOWN

- "___ Is Your Life"; early reality show
- Twofold
- Star of "Walker, Texas Ranger"
- "___ Days"
- Pig's nose
- "___ want for Christmas is my two front teeth..."
- Mayberry resident
- Marvin and Majors
- UCLA athlete
- Former "American Idol" judge
- ___ up; misbehaves
- ___ Moines, Iowa
- Repairs
- Singer and actor Nelson ___
- ___ up; illuminated
- Sitcom for Matthew Perry
- Lift with great effort
- Setting for "The Golden Girls": abbr.
- Black-and-white diving bird
- Voight and Stewart
- "The ___ & Stimp Show"
- Magician's stick
- "Eyes ___ Shut"; Tom Cruise film
- "The Crazy ___"; last Robin Williams series
- Soothing ointment
- Asian nation
- Church bench
- Alda and Arkin
- Actress Betty
- "A Boy and ___ Dog"; Don Johnson movie
- ___ lazuli; bright blue gem
- Ron, who once played Tarzan
- "___ Grit"; movie for Matt Damon and Jeff Bridges
- Roy Rogers and ___ Evans
- Carl Reiner's son
- Actor Holbrook

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



JUMBLE

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

| |
|-----------|
| COLKB |
| □ □ □ □ □ |
| NOREP |
| □ □ □ □ □ |
| CABENO |
| □ □ □ □ □ |
| NICORI |
| □ □ □ □ □ |

Print your answer here:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Jumbles: BLOCK PRONE BEACON IRONIC
Answer: When it came to answering questions about his new novel, the author was an — OPEN BOOK

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

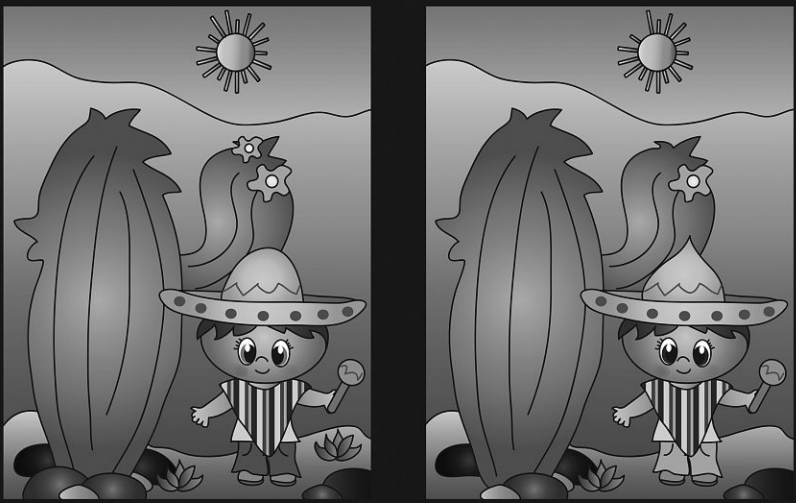
| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|-------------|
| Juliet's love | Chutzpa | Service branch | Tyrant | Southern dish | Small fight | Malice | Burden |
| | | Space specks | | | | | |
| Like drive-thru orders | Holiday season | | Man-horse hybrid | Health resort | | | |
| Memento | Round handles | Truism | | Kind of shooter | Not new | | |
| | | Shows approval | | | | | Kind of bag |
| Thongs | Mouth part | Shed tears | Faction | Outcome | Source Advantage | | |
| | | | Casual top | | | Unwell | Capture |
| Weighty | | | Totaling | | | | |
| | | Puff | | | Chair part | | |
| Garden flower | Peach center | | Lots of land | | | | |

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11/4/18

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

FIND THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES

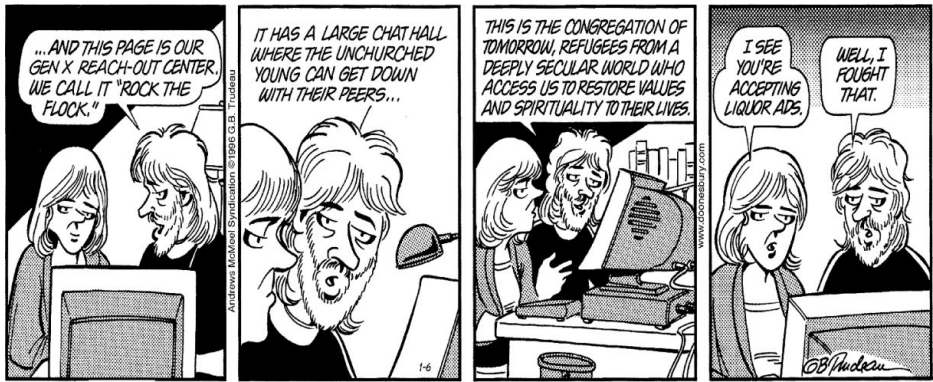


Solution: stone pants; tip of the hat; sunflower; cactus flower; color of eyes and face paint

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



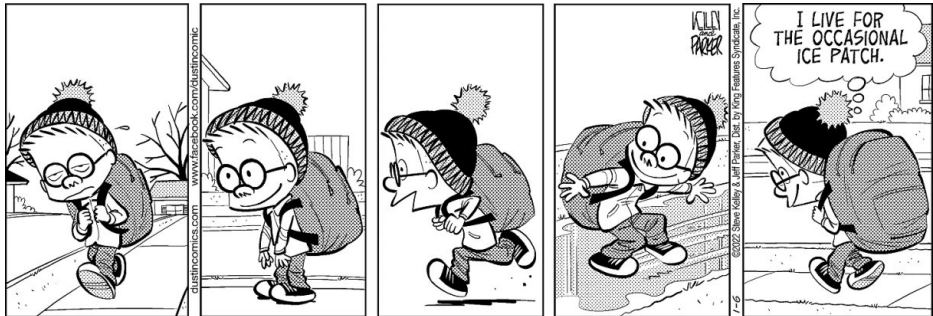
Garfield By Jim Davis



Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



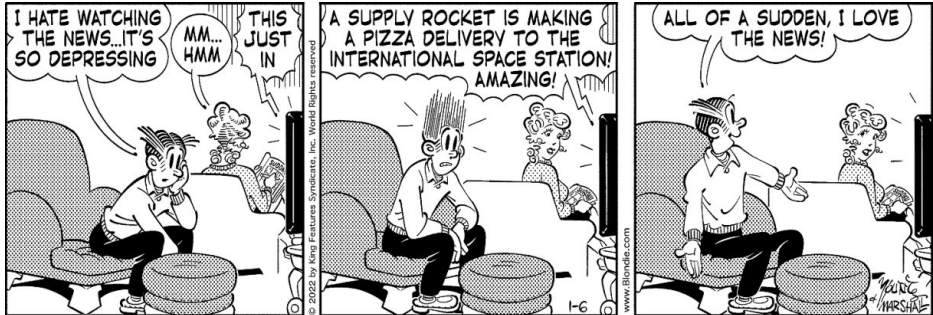
Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



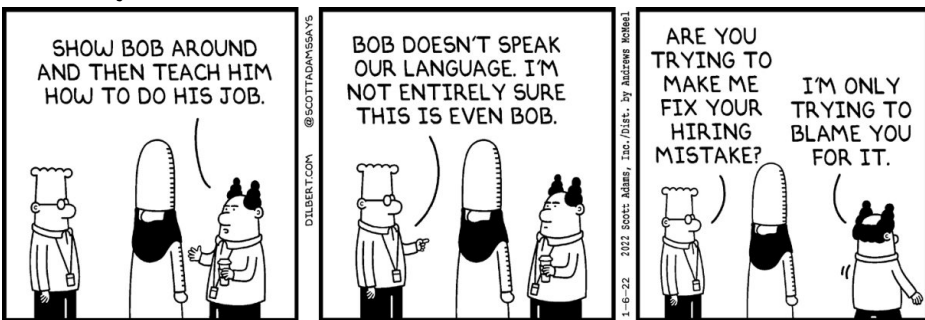
Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



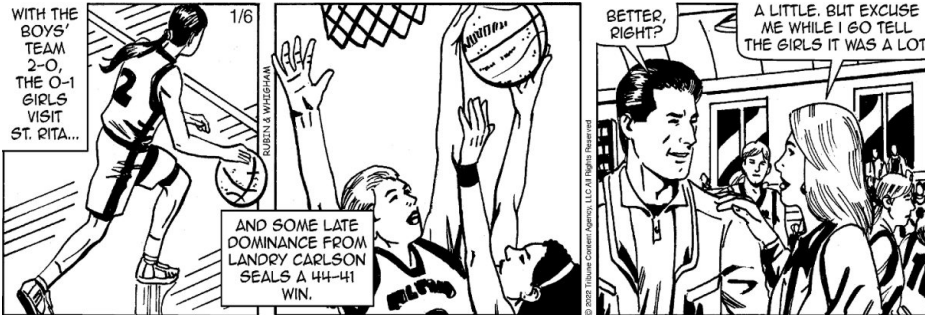
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



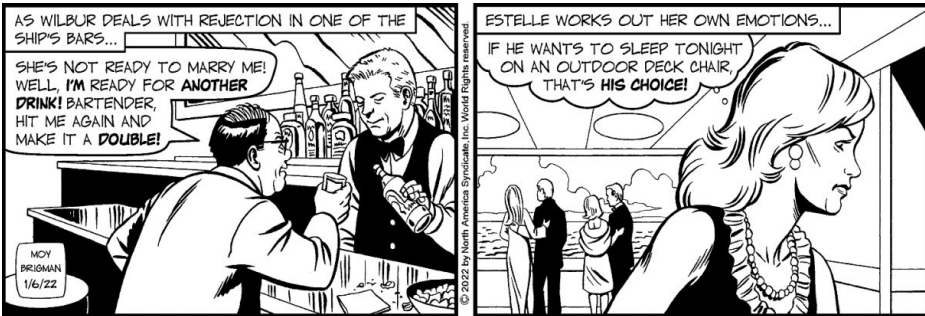
Dilbert By Scott Adams



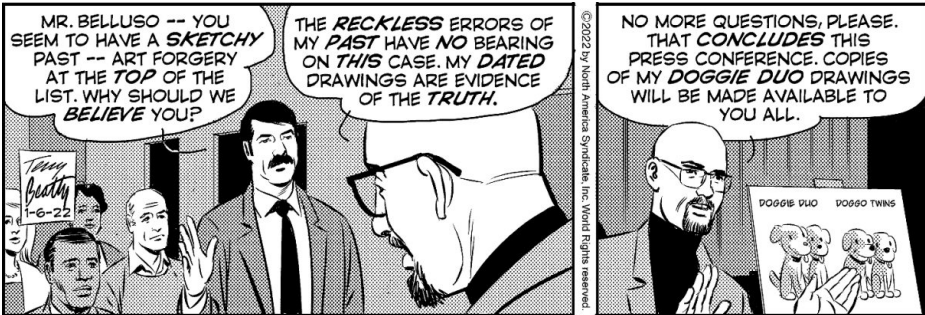
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



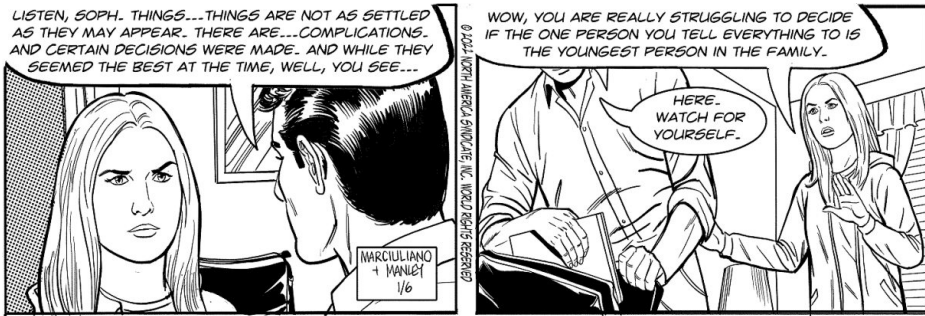
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



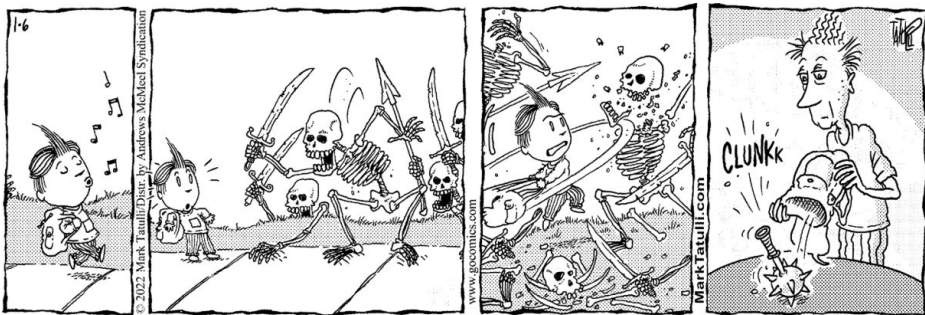
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



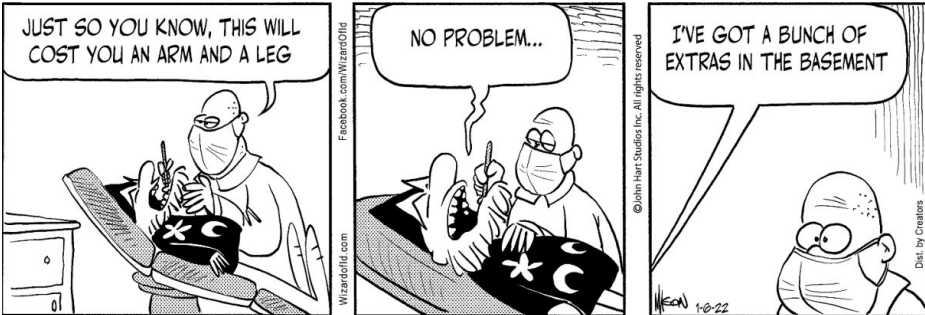
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



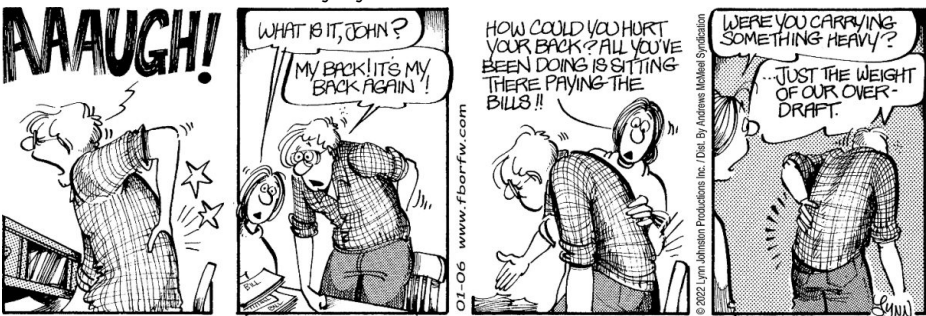
Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



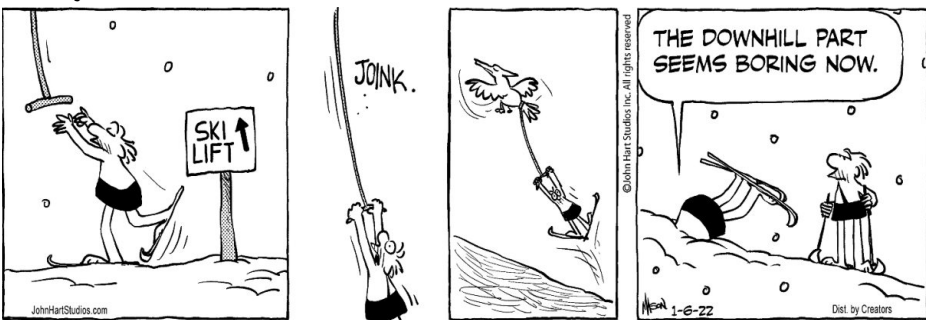
Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



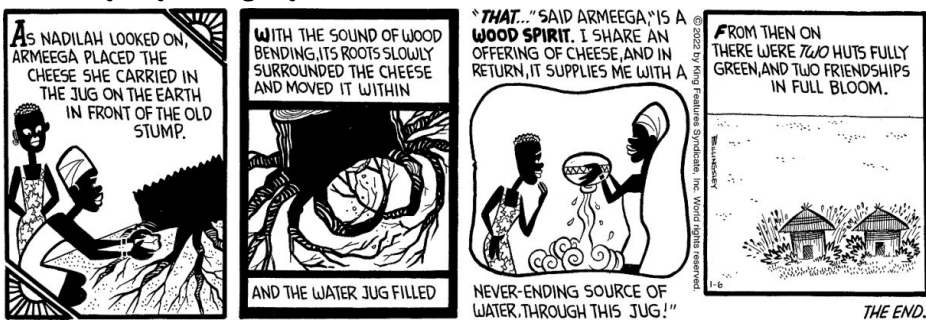
Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne



Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley



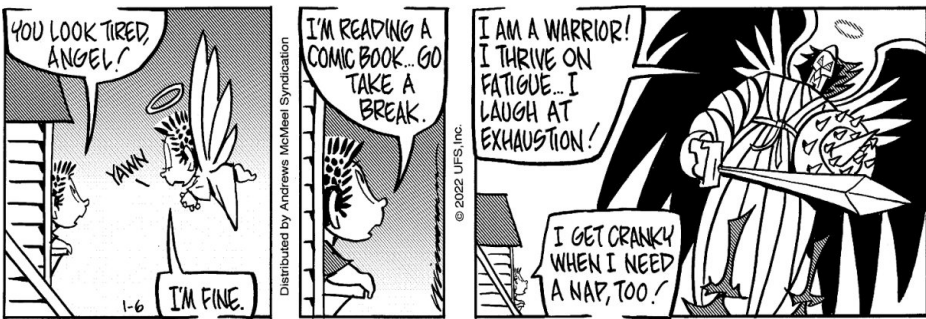
Pickles By Brian Crane



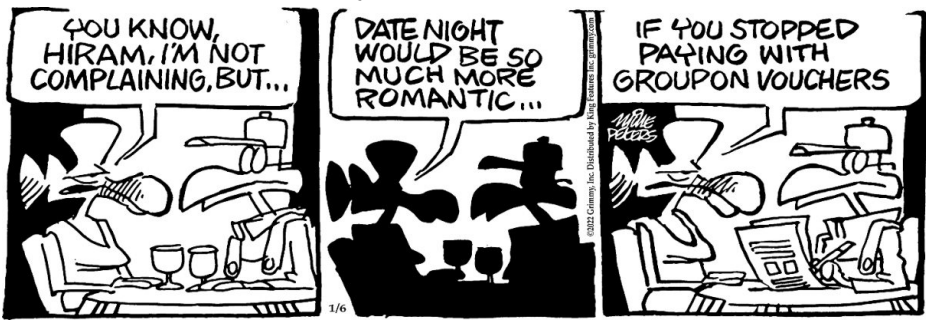
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



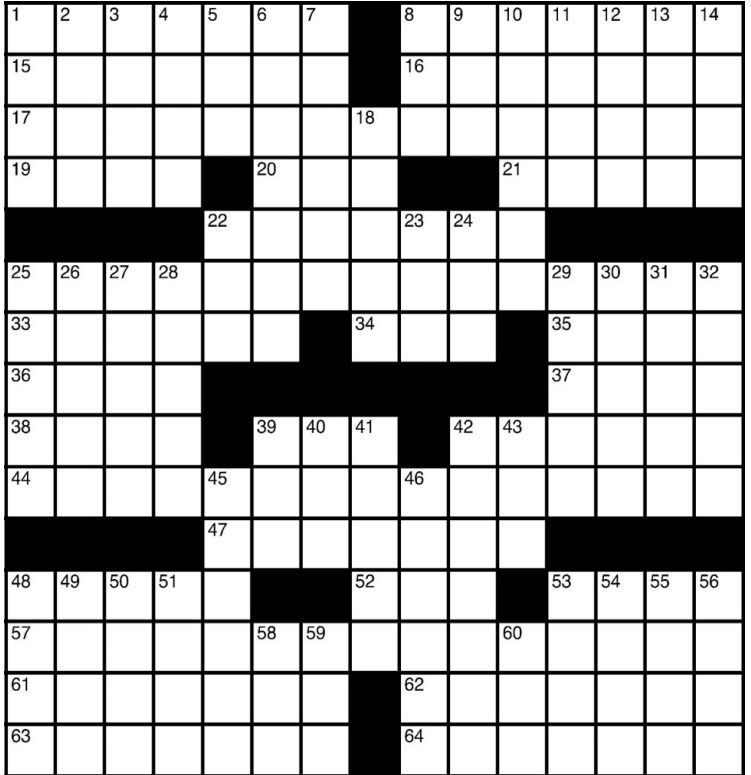
Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- Across**
- 1 Star-crossed
 - 8 Enhanced the recipe with
 - 15 "Invisible Man" author
 - 16 Always raring to fight
 - 17 Buzz
 - 19 Increase, with "up"
 - 20 Org. monitoring insecticides
 - 21 Vex
 - 22 Sideline advisers
 - 25 Buzz
 - 33 Tickle
 - 34 Rock box
 - 35 Marathon Petroleum brand
 - 36 "The spring is ___ when green geese are a-breeding": Shak.
 - 37 Intuitively grasp, in slang
 - 38 Calculated intake
 - 39 "Medical" sports nickname
 - 42 Cuisine including jambalaya
 - 44 Buzz
 - 47 Calculated intake
 - 48 West African capital
 - 52 Bed for an unexpected guest, maybe
 - 53 Puts out, in a way
 - 57 Buzz
 - 61 Developing
 - 62 Place to put your feet up
 - 63 Lowered
 - 64 Bygone employees of cautious royalty
- Down**
- 1 Toothless farm denizens
 - 2 Plenty
 - 3 Ballet motion
 - 4 Struggle with scissors?
 - 5 Santa Fe-to-Dallas dir.
 - 6 2013 Alice McDermott novel that was a National Book Award finalist
 - 7 Get testy with
 - 8 Evoke an "ooh" from, maybe
 - 9 Small application
 - 10 Like a country at the bottom of a rainfall chart
 - 11 2013 Mandela portrayer
 - 12 Food regimen
 - 13 Swedish superstore
 - 14 Hornet home
 - 18 Russian retreat
 - 22 Trig. function
 - 23 Verbal pause
 - 24 Dubious ability
 - 25 Sykes of "black-ish"
 - 26 Treats with embossed surfaces
 - 27 ___ beast: holiday dinner in a Seuss classic
 - 28 Engraver Albrecht
 - 29 Persisted noisily, as a storm
 - 30 Diamond flaw?
 - 31 USDA concern
 - 32 Memento
 - 39 CSI stuff
 - 40 Snitch
 - 41 Like gossip worth spreading
 - 42 Bach wrote one about coffee
 - 43 "Kidnapped" monogram
 - 45 Speaks formally
 - 46 Likely to scald
 - 48 Within
 - 49 With 50-Down, group for movie enthusiasts
 - 50 See 49-Down
 - 51 Comic Rudner
 - 53 Bring (out)
 - 54 Top
 - 55 ___ gum: common thickening agent
 - 56 RR sched. components
 - 58 "___ we on for tonight?"
 - 59 Dowel
 - 60 Repeated contraction in the '50s TV "Superman" intro



By Jeffrey Wechsler Tribune Content Agency 1/6/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ K J 8
♥ 7 2
♦ 8 5 3
♣ A K Q J 3

WEST

♠ 6 3
♥ A Q 5
♦ A K J 9 6 4
♣ 9 4

EAST

♠ 9 5
♥ 10 9 8 6 4 3
♦ Q 2
♣ 10 7 2

SOUTH

♠ A Q 10 7 4 2
♥ K J
♦ 10 7
♣ 8 6 5

The bidding:

| North | East | South | West |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1 ♠ | Pass | 1 ♠ | 2 ♦ |
| 2 ♠ | Pass | 4 ♠ | |

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

The case of the telltale deuce

Things are not always what they seem;

in fact, sometimes they are exactly the opposite! Assume you're West and lead the king of diamonds against four spades. East plays the deuce and South the seven. Looking at only your own hand and dummy, what should you do next?

If you continue with the ace of diamonds, which seems the natural thing to do, declarer easily makes the contract. But if you lead a low diamond at trick two, South goes down one. Your partner wins with the queen and returns a heart, bless him, and it's all over.

How can you possibly be expected to know that a low diamond lead at trick two is the only winning play? It's the right play, but it takes a few mental gyrations to reach this conclusion.

Your sole task is to interpret the meaning of your partner's deuce of diamonds.

Ordinarily, a deuce means "stop playing the suit."

But in the present case, it would be a serious error to attribute this meaning to it.

After the play to the first trick, you should reason that East cannot have either the Q-10-2 or the 10-2, since he would have played the ten from either holding to ask for a continuation. Therefore, he must have either the singleton deuce or the Q-2 doubleton.

Consequently, no harm can come from leading a low diamond at trick two. If East has no more diamonds, he will ruff and return a heart; if East started with the doubleton queen, he will win and also return a heart. So, oddly enough, the deuce cannot possibly mean what it appears to say.

Tomorrow: Test your play.

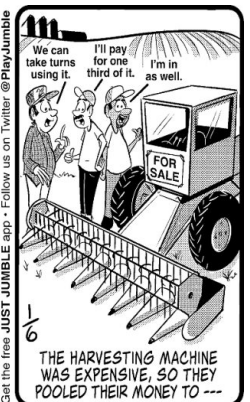
JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

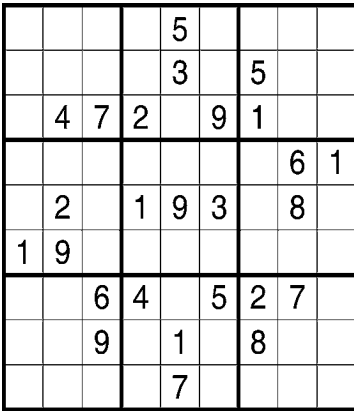
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DMYAL
BHYOB
DUTIME
ICADDN

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRAPH SWOON WINERY TRENCH
Answer: The tusked African swine suffering from nervousness was a — WORRY WARTHOG

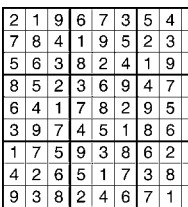


TODAY'S SUDOKU

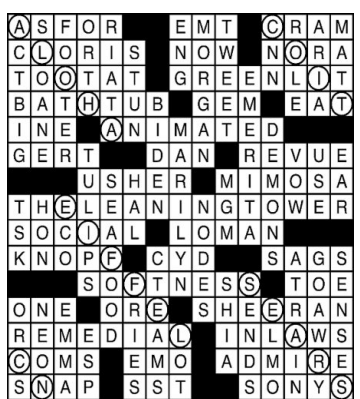


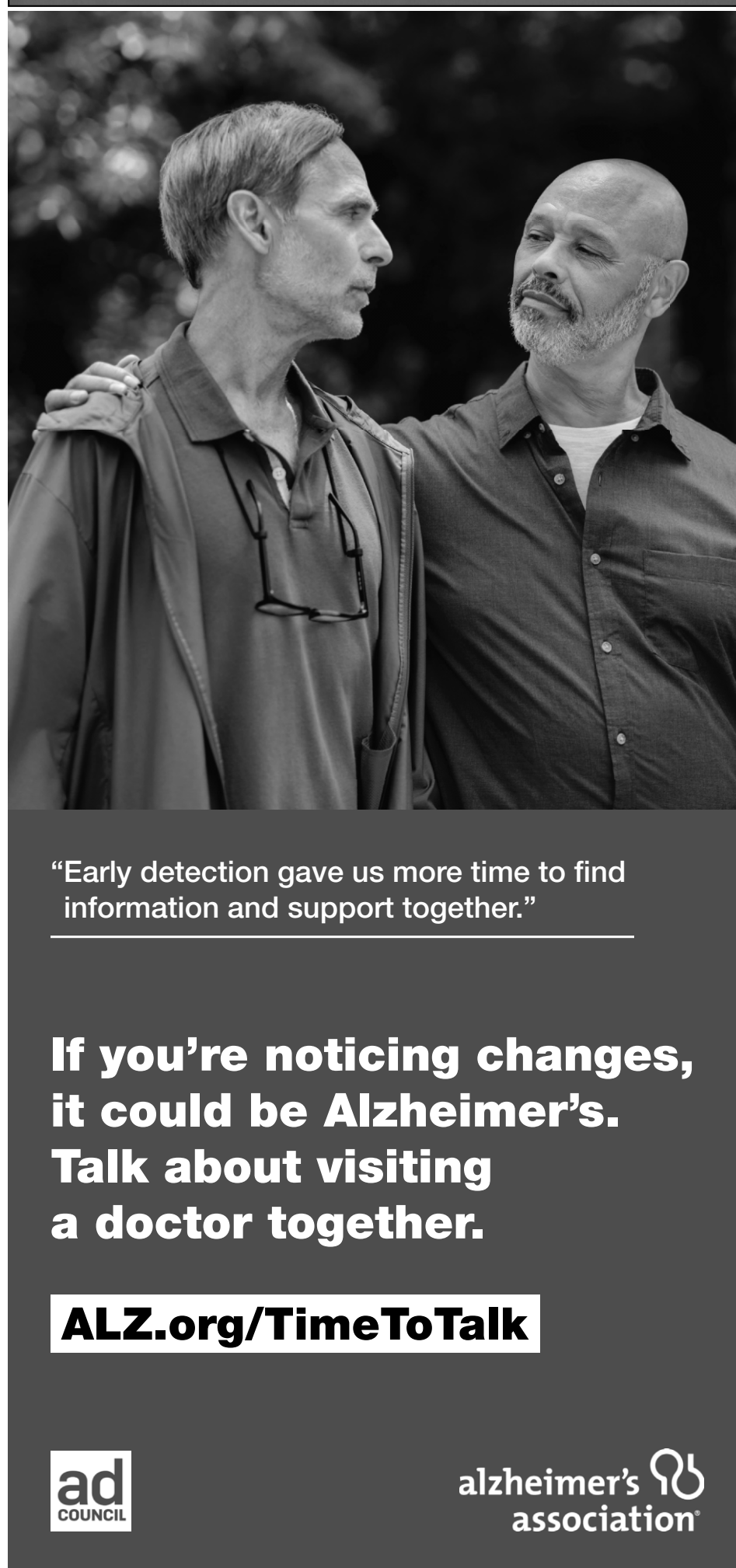
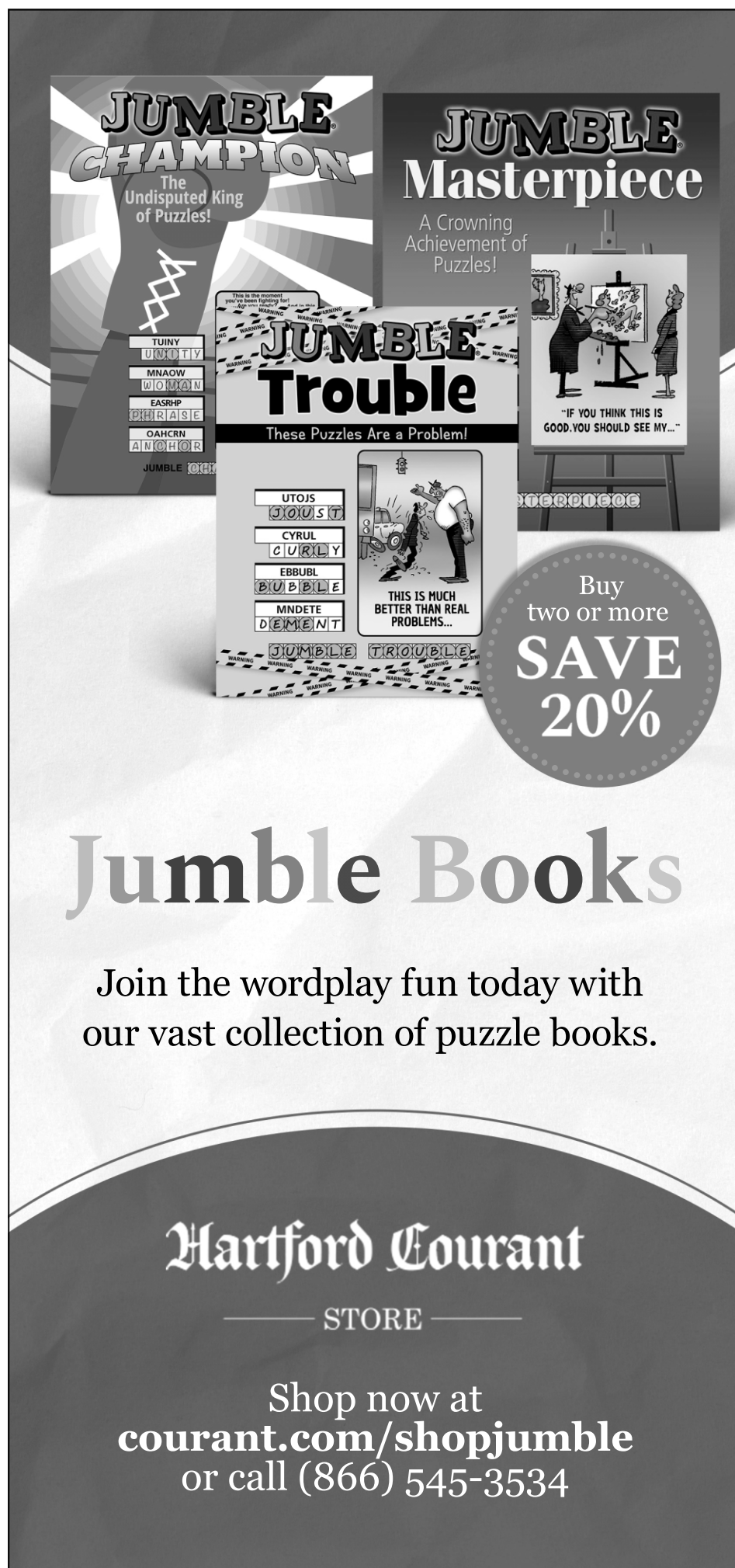
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE





Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM / SPORTS

UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Recent 4th-quarter pattern troubles Auriemma

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

If you had told Huskies fans in early December that the UConn women's basketball team, playing without reigning national player of the year Paige Bueckers and three other key rotation pieces, would suffer a five-point loss to a top 10 Louisville team, most would call that a respectable outcome given the circumstances.

Yet that 69-64 loss Dec. 19 at Mohegan Sun Arena felt more painful than that for the Huskies — largely because a quality victory

over a team now ranked No. 3 in the Associated Press poll was well within reach.

UConn led for 26:33 of the game, compared to Louisville's 12:22, and maintained a three-point advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

But, as has happened in each of UConn's three losses this season (including two without Bueckers), mistakes or a certain player's inability to step up proved costly. This has not lost on coach Geno Auriemma.

"That was very disappointing, because as shorthanded as we

were, we still should have won that game," Auriemma told Bob Joyce on his weekly radio show. "They made a couple big, big shots late in the game, obviously. And [freshman] Caroline [Ducharme] made some huge shots. But there wasn't a whole lot of help from our players there in that fourth quarter. And that's kind of become a little bit of a pattern that I don't like and somehow I'm going to have to get to the bottom of."

In a valiant effort, Ducharme scored 13 of her career-high 24

Turn to UConn, Page 4



UConn's Dorka Juhasz reaches for a rebound against Louisville's Ahlana Smith on Dec. 19 in Uncasville. JESSICA HILL/AP

WINTER OLYMPICS

PEAK PERFORMER



Hannah Soar of Somers competes during qualifying in the World Cup women's dual moguls skiing event in February 2021 in Deer Valley, Utah. Soar, 22, has qualified for her first Olympic team and will compete in the Beijing Olympics in February. RICK BOWMER/AP



Soar of the U.S. after her run in the Woman's Mogul Finals during the 2021 Intermountain Healthcare Freestyle International Ski World Cup at Deer Valley last February. Soar is one of two moguls athletes on the U.S. national team from Connecticut; Olivia Giaccio, ranked fifth in the world, is from Redding. GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

When Hannah Soar returned to Connecticut from France on Dec. 19, newly qualified for the U.S. Olympic moguls ski team, she had a picture in her head of how things would be.

"You picture making the Olympics since you were a kid, right?" said Soar, 22, of Somers. "And you have this image of it in your head. I got on the plane from France to come home. In my head, we would celebrate over Christmas-time, then I would zone in on Jan. 1, getting over the fact that 'Oh my God, I qualified,' and then I could focus on best preparing myself to win at the Olympics."

Instead, Soar wound up spending the holidays in isolation with her parents, fearful that she would catch COVID-19 during the recent surge of infections and potentially get knocked out of the Olympics. She went to Killington in Vermont, where she grew up skiing, but only skied a few times because people kept congratulating her. While she was grateful for

the well wishes, she didn't want to risk exposure to the coronavirus.

"I get off the plane from France and there obviously wasn't any celebrating to be had or anything like that, you're just kind of isolated and you can't see anyone," she said. "Like, 'Wow, this is not how I pictured this.'"

"I was just so COVID paranoid. People are so awesome, and I love them and they were so excited to say congratulations but I was like, 'Ohhh, don't get near me.' I didn't want to be mean to people but it gave me so much anxiety."

Soar is currently ranked seventh in the world in moguls and one of two Americans to qualify for the U.S. team so far. She and Jaelin Kauf, the other U.S. women's team qualifier, will stay in Park City, Utah, while the rest of the team competes at a World Cup in Canada this weekend because they don't want to take a chance with the omicron variant running rampant.

Soar is one of two moguls athletes on the U.S. national team from Connecticut; Olivia Giaccio, ranked fifth in the world, is from Redding. The U.S. team will be officially announced Jan. 21.

Turn to Soar, Page 4

BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Ortiz trending right way, but Hall vote may be close call

By Peter Abraham
Boston Globe

BOSTON — David Ortiz was a 10-time All-Star and a pivotal member of three World Series champions, including the curse-shattering 2004 Red Sox. He's also one of only four play-

ers with at least 500 home runs and 600 doubles, and had a .947 OPS in 85 career postseason games.

That's the résumé of a Hall of Famer.

Or is it?

Hall of Fame voting closed Dec. 31 and the results are scheduled to be revealed at 6 p.m. on Jan. 25.

Through Tuesday, 134 members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America had made their ballots public and 110 included a vote for Ortiz.

That puts Big Papi at 82.1 percent, well above the 75 percent

Turn to Ortiz, Page 6



Former Red Sox star David Ortiz likely will be voted into the Hall of Fame, but the tally may be close. MICHAEL DWYER/AP

WOLF PACK

Labrie brings a world of hockey experience to Hartford



Dom Amore

Pierre-Cedric Labrie's phone never goes completely silent for long. Somewhere in the world there is bound to be another hockey team in need of experience, leadership and the willingness to push somebody around when a teammate has been wronged on the ice.

In October, the Wolf Pack lost their "enforcer" when Mason Geersten was claimed off waivers and GM Ryan Martin thought of Labrie, 35, who had played in Germany the past two seasons. Soon, Labrie was on his way to Hartford to join his 16th team. The adventure continues.

"Every day I embrace going to the rink and trying to be the best role model I can for those young guys," Labrie said. "[To] help them add stuff to their game, and being a true pro, too, off the ice."

Veterans don't come more grizzled than left winger P.C. Labrie, 6 feet 3 and 234 pounds. He has spent most of his hockey life in the AHL, lifting the Calder Cup in a parade through Norfolk, Va., in 2012, but has played in six other leagues, including those precious 46 games in the NHL with the Tampa Bay Lightning, scoring against Ottawa and Winnipeg during the second week of April 2013.

The playoff-contending Wolf Pack (14-8-2-2) have found he still has skills, with two goals and six assists in 21 games. He's been banged up lately, but is expected back in the lineup Friday at Rochester.

"He's played a lot for us on offense, and that's not why we signed him initially," Wolf Pack coach Kris Knoblauch said. "He's been able to make a lot of plays, he's good with the puck. Very reliable. Playing in the American League many, many seasons, a lot of our younger players have a lot to learn from him, and there's the physicality part of it. He's able to finish checks and provide the presence."

And to think, it almost ended at age 17, when Labrie was cut from the Quebec Ramparts, a major junior

Turn to Amore, Page 4

Did you know?

A headlight's or taillight's visibility can be reduced by over 50% if the lights are covered with winter grime.

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SPORTS

NETS

Still no vax, Kyrie’s back: Club looks to star guard for help

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kyrie Irving might be just the jolt the Brooklyn Nets need to escape a midseason slump. It looks like they’ll find out Wednesday night at Indiana. After being held out of the team’s first 35 games because he refused to get vaccinated against the coronavirus, Irving is set to make his highly anticipated season debut.

Coach Steve Nash was still finalizing plans for how the guard will be used. “He could definitely start,” Nash said after the Nets’ morning shoot-around. “I think he could play a full chunk of minutes. He’s had three or four full-court days so I think he can play extended minutes.” Irving has been unable to play at home and for much of the season because of New York City’s vaccination mandate and was unwelcome

on the road. The Nets didn’t want a part-time player, so sent him away during the preseason. Things changed. Nash said with the recent COVID-19 outbreak that left the Nets severely short-handed, having the superstar part-time was a better option than signing more players to 10-day hardship contracts. “So why not bring him back?” Nash said. The Nets have lost three straight,

all at home, and there’s nothing Irving can do about the Nets’ struggles in Brooklyn if he remains unvaccinated. The vaccine is mandated for New York City athletes playing in public venues. He has said refusing it was what’s best for him and that he was aware there would be consequences. But he can play in road games in the cities where there is no mandate, including all the upcoming ones during a stretch that has the Nets away for seven of their next 11 games.

Irving’s situation is rare in professional sports. The NBA has said 97% of its players are fully vaccinated — which would basically mean no more than 15 players in the league are unvaccinated, Irving presumably among them. That is consistent with other sports leagues; the NFL said in mid-December that about 95% of its players are vaccinated, and the NHL touts a 99% rate with no more than four players unvaccinated.

UP NEXT

Patriots: at Dolphins, Sunday, 4:25 p.m.
Giants: Washington, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Jets: at Bills, Sunday, 4:25 p.m.
UConn MBB: at Seton Hall, Saturday, noon; St. John’s (Gampel), Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; at Providence, Jan. 15, 2 p.m.
UConn WBB: Creighton (Gampel), Sunday, 1 p.m.; at Butler, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Xavier (XL), Jan. 15, noon
Celtics: at Knicks, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Knicks, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Pacers, Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Knicks: Celtics, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; at Celtics, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Spurs, Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Nets: Bucks, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Spurs, Sunday, noon; at Trail Blazers, Monday, 10 p.m.
UConn hockey: at Boston Coll., Saturday, 4 p.m.; at AIC, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Boston Univ., Jan. 14, 7 p.m.
Bruins: Wild, Thursday, 7 p.m.; at Lightning, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Capitals, Monday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: at Golden Knights, Thursday, 10 p.m.; at Ducks, Saturday, 10 p.m.; at Kings, Monday, 10:30 p.m.
Wolf Pack: at Rochester, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Utica, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Charlotte, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO BASKETBALL

1 p.m.: Legacy Early College (SC) at La Lumiere (IN). (Same-day Tape) ESPN
3 p.m.: Oak Hill Academy (VA) at Wasatch (UT). (Same-day Tape) ESPN
5 p.m.: Sunrise Christian (KS) at Montverde (FL). (Same-day Tape) ESPN
6 p.m.: Womens College: Clemson at Florida State. (Live) ACC
6:30 p.m.: Womens College: Texas A&M at Tennessee. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Maryland at Illinois. (Live) ESPN2
7 p.m.: New Hampshire at Vermont. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Ohio State at Indiana. (Live) FS1
7:30 p.m.: Boston Celtics at New York Knicks. (Live) TNT, MSG
8 p.m.: Womens College: North Carolina at NC State. (Live) ACC
8 p.m.: Alabama-Birmingham at North Texas. (Live) CBSSN
8:30 p.m.: Womens College: Arkansas at Vanderbilt. (Live) SEC
9 p.m.: Iowa at Wisconsin. (Live) FS1
10 p.m.: Louisiana Tech at Texas-El Paso. (Live) CBSSN
10 p.m.: Los Angeles Clippers at Phoenix Suns. (Live) TNT
11 p.m.: Saint Marys at Santa Clara. (Live) ESPN
11 p.m.: USC at California. (Live) FS1
GOLF
6 p.m.: Sentry Tournament of Champions, First Round. (Live) GOLF
HOCKEY
7 p.m.: Minnesota Wild at Boston Bruins. (Live) ESPN
10 p.m.: New York Rangers at Vegas Golden Knights. (Live) MSG2
SKATING
5 p.m.: Figure Skating U.S. Championships: Pairs Short Program. (Same-day Tape) USA
8:30 p.m.: Figure Skating U.S. Championships: Ladies Short Program. (Same-day Tape) USA
SOCCER
12:30 p.m.: Italian Serie A Soccer AC Milan vs AS Roma. (Live) CBSSN
2:45 p.m.: Italian Serie A Soccer Juventus vs Napoli. (Live) CBSSN



Patriots quarterback Mac Jones celebrates with teammates during a game against the Dolphins on Sept. 12 in Foxborough, Mass. WINSLOW TOWNSON/AP

PATRIOTS

Jones expects to feel heat from Dolphins

By Jim McBride
Boston Globe

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Mac Jones will be feeling the heat Sunday afternoon and it will have very little to do with the expected oppressive conditions in South Florida. The Dolphins have run a variety of defensive schemes and while they are not exclusively a blitz-happy unit, they do feature many pressure packages designed to disrupt timing and demoralize quarterbacks. As Bill Belichick noted Wednesday, Dolphins coach Brian Flores runs a game plan attack, similar to how the Patriots operate, meaning opponents need to be prepared for anything and everything. “We’ve played games against them where the game was almost exclusively three-man rush and we’ve played games and seen games, like the Baltimore game this year, where they bring in max pressure in the ballpark of, call it, 20 times,” the Patriots coach said. “Then, we’ve seen them in between, where it’s a little bit of this, a little bit of that, some blitz-zone, some blitz-man, some man to man, some zone.” No matter how the Dolphins bring the pressure, Belichick said the keys to combating it are communication, decision-making, and following your techniques. “It’s still kind of the same concept of, you’ve got to make sure you’ve got a hat on a hat. You’ve got to get everybody picked up, and if you don’t, you’d better know what your outlets are in the passing game,” he said. “In the running game, it’s the same thing. When they pressure from the outside, that usually involves some type of interior line movement. If you can anticipate that, that can really help you in the running game. If you can’t and you get surprised by it, then that creates a prob-

lem, too.” Jones has shown consistent growth when it comes to presnap recognition, setting protections, and getting the ball out quickly — skills needed to help keep defenders out of his face. Though he’s been sacked 26 times, he’s only hit the deck twice in the last four games. The rookie has watched a lot of tape on the Dolphins, who rode their defense to a recent seven-game winning streak and are tied for third in the NFL with 46 sacks. “They’ve done a really good job getting after the quarterback, creating negative plays, obviously, with sacks and all that,” Jones said Wednesday. “They’ve done really good down there and given quarterbacks they play against a lot of different looks, so we just have to be ready, follow what we know, and follow our rules. That’s pretty much all there is to it.” Belichick, who said the Patriots have done a good job of handling the blitz this season, was quick to remind that it doesn’t all fall on the quarterback. “It’s really team execution. One guy can’t handle a blitz by himself,” he said. “You’ve got to have receivers doing the right thing. You’ve got to have the pass protection working together. The quarterback’s got to know who the protection has, know who they don’t have, get the ball out accordingly, and see the roaming players that are in blitz-zone or that drop out in a man-blitz, that kind of thing.” Flores has been impressed by the progress he’s seen from Jones. “I think he’s done a very nice job. He has a good command of the offense, poise, good decision-making. And really, as an entire offense, it’s complementary to the skill set of each individual player,” he said. “Run game, pass game. Josh [McDaniels] has done a good job of putting those guys in position to have success. Obviously, Mac’s at the helm and he’s done a nice job.”

JETS

Team names C.J. Mosley MVP

By DJ Bien-Aime II
New York Daily News

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — C.J. Mosley has been named the Curtis Martin Team MVP for being the heart and soul of the Jets this season. “It was an awesome feeling, I was very honored,” Mosley said Wednesday. “I’m very blessed to be voted MVP by my peers, by my brothers. It’s always a humbling and vulnerable experience when you get to talk in front of a group of men, especially men that look up to you and believe in you. It definitely means a lot to be MVP.” It’s almost impossible to find a member of the Jets organization who has something bad to say about Mosley from the players to the coaches. He’s been the unquestioned leader of one of the youngest teams in the NFL. “C.J. is one of the best players I ever played against and probably the best guy I will play with,” Quinnen Williams said. “When it

comes down to communication and come down to executing, when it comes down to vocal leadership or leading by example and different things like that. He may be one of the best in the business.” Mosley also helped the Jets new coaching staff lay a foundation in their first year. He was the poster child for how the organization wants to grow. And he’s been the bright spot of a defense ranked 32nd in points and yards allowed this season. “C.J. is awesome,” Robert Saleh said. “You guys know how I feel about C.J. I know everyone saw that he was voted Team MVP, but I’ve made a comment before that he’s an All-Pro player and an All-Pro human. He’s one of the more thoughtful individuals. I think his locker room presence is phenomenal, his leadership is phenomenal. When he speaks, everyone listens even though he doesn’t really speak that much. Just been a pleasure.

“For a guy who’s accomplished so much in his career, to have a new staff come in here and ask him to lose 20 pounds and he does it,” Saleh added. “To ask him to show up to OTAs and he does it. To ask him to adjust the way he’s played linebacker his whole career, he does it and he’s having a heck of a season. Not because of coaching but because he’s an unbelievable football player and he works so hard at it. Credit to him and everything. He deserves every accolade he gets and I’m really happy he’s here.” Mosley is also worthy of praise off the field, but his on the field play this season has been noteworthy because it’s his first season back after a two year hiatus. In the 2021-22 season, he’s registered 155 tackles, fifth most in the NFL, adding added two sacks, two tackles for loss and two QB hits to his career totals. He also is tied for the most run stops (84) among linebackers in the NFL, according to Next Gen Stats.

GIANTS

Ownership quiet as players back Judge

By Pat Leonard
New York Daily News

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Giants on Wednesday respectfully declined an interview request for co-owners John Mara and Steve Tisch to speak prior to Sunday’s finale against Washington at MetLife Stadium. So there will be no further clarity on Joe Judge’s job status approaching the end of his second season until at least Sunday night or Black Monday morning. Members of the organization and ownership have leaked their continued belief in Judge to both ESPN and NFL Network in recent weeks. Still, Mara and Tisch have changed their minds before. They publicly announced their “support” of coach Ben McAdoo after a loss at San Francisco on Nov. 12, 2017, and then fired both McAdoo and GM Jerry Reese on Dec. 4 with four games left. Safety Julian Love did back Judge’s Sunday assertion that Giants players used to check out in recent years under previous regimes, though, and said the same thing isn’t happening now. “I haven’t heard too much of what’s going on in the offseason,” Love said, when asked if players were already talking about vacation plans. “Somebody told me, like [Judge] mentioned, that in years past it was like that. I can attest to that, being here a few years now. “Thankfully you’re not seeing that,” Love added. “You’re not seeing guys lose focus. You’re seeing guys be attentive to this game and really to give it your best. It’s a prideful thing. You don’t want to just fold. So that’s what we’re discussing.” In defense of Judge, Leonard Williams also said that while the Giants (4-12) are losing, “what’s working for the team is knowing that we have a lot of guys that are willing to fight all the way to the end, whether that’s the end of the game, end of the half, end of the season. “I think having a lot of guys like that creates a good culture around,” Williams said. It is believed Mara and Tisch genuinely still have faith in Judge to guide this organization out of the darkness through a continued rebuild in year three. But Judge’s 11-minute postgame speech last Sunday sounded like a coach who might be feeling the heat, and it would be help-

ful at this juncture to learn if ownership’s feelings have changed in its wake. This is, after all, the ownership group that brought GM Dave Gettleman back for a fourth season after last year’s Week 17 win over Dallas that happened because Wayne Gallman recovered a fumble with his rear end. Denver Broncos offensive coordinator Pat Shurmur responded to Judge’s accusations of players quitting on him in New York by telling reporters Wednesday: “That’s not an accurate assessment. But beyond that, I have no comment.” Judge was asked if he has spoken with Giants owners about Sunday’s comments. “I talk to ownership a good bit all the time,” Judge said. “In terms of any of the things I’ve said, no.” Quarterback Jake Fromm, who is expected to start Sunday’s finale against Washington, said he isn’t paying attention to the pressure of his coach’s job being on the line in this game. “For me, the only pressure I feel is going to be pressure I put on myself to go out and perform,” Fromm said. “Obviously, I want to go out and play the best I can for me, for my family, my teammates in the locker room and for this organization. Yeah, I’m going to go out and I’m going to give it all I can. Trust me, I want to win more than anybody does.” **Hefty injury report:** The Week 18 injury report looks like a CVS receipt. Fifteen of the 45 players on the Giants’ active roster were listed on Wednesday’s projected injury report following a morning walkthrough. That’s a third of the team Judge has available for Sunday’s 1 p.m. finale. Seven players were listed as did not participate: FB Cullen Gillaspia (knee), QB Mike Glennon (wrist), DT Austin Johnson (foot), WR Collin Johnson (hamstring), DT Dexter Lawrence (personal/Covid ramp-up), WR John Ross (knee), LB Elerson Smith (neck). Smith was later placed on injured reserve with his new injury. And eight players were listed as limited: RB Saquon Barkley (ankle), OT Korey Cunningham (Covid ramp-up), G Will Hernandez (ankle), TE Kyle Rudolph (ankle), DT Danny Shelton (Covid ramp-up), WR Darius Slayton (shoulder/Covid ramp-up), OT Andrew Thomas (shoulder) and WR Kadarius Toney (shoulder).

NFL

Fan’s lawsuit demands Giants, Jets return to NYC from New Jersey

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Forget the recent years of football failures: There’s still one fan who wants the Giants and Jets to leave New Jersey for their old home in New York. A \$6 billion Manhattan Federal Court lawsuit filed this week demanded the two teams, with a combined record of 8-24 and one week left in yet another lost season, abandon their shared Meadowlands home of MetLife Stadium and return to the Big Apple. Plaintiff Abdiell Suero, of Greenwich Village, asked in the class action complaint for an order returning both franchises to New York in 2025 — along with the multibillion payout nearly a half-century after the Giants moved to the swamps of Jersey.

“If the Giants and Jets want to call themselves New York teams, they need to come back to New York,” said Suero in court papers. “I’ve traveled to and from MetLife Stadium by mass transit and car service, and both ways are a nightmare.” Court papers also asked for the two teams to be rebranded as the East Rutherford Giants and Jets for as long as they continue to play in New Jersey. The Jets did not immediately respond to the lawsuit, while the Giants issued a statement declaring “this case has no merit and we will defend it vigorously.” The Giants moved to New Jersey and the since torn-down Giants Stadium in 1976, while the Jets joined them in the Garden State eight years later.

SCOREBOARD

| NBA | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|------|
| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
| ATLANTIC | W | L | PCT | GB |
| Brooklyn | 23 | 12 | .657 | — |
| Philadelphia | 20 | 16 | .556 | 3 ½ |
| Toronto | 17 | 17 | .500 | 5 ½ |
| Boston | 18 | 19 | .486 | 6 |
| New York | 18 | 20 | .474 | 6 ½ |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | |
| W | L | PCT | GB | |
| Miami | 23 | 15 | .605 | — |
| Washington | 19 | 18 | .514 | 3 ½ |
| Charlotte | 19 | 19 | .500 | 4 |
| Atlanta | 16 | 20 | .444 | 6 |
| Orlando | 7 | 31 | .184 | 16 |
| CENTRAL | | | | |
| W | L | PCT | GB | |
| Chicago | 25 | 10 | .714 | — |
| Milwaukee | 25 | 14 | .641 | 2 |
| Cleveland | 21 | 17 | .553 | 5 ½ |
| Indiana | 14 | 24 | .368 | 12 ½ |
| Detroit | 7 | 28 | .200 | 18 |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
| SOUTHWEST | | | | |
| W | L | PCT | GB | |
| Memphis | 25 | 14 | .641 | — |
| Dallas | 19 | 18 | .514 | 5 |
| San Antonio | 14 | 22 | .389 | 9 ½ |
| New Orleans | 13 | 25 | .342 | 11 ½ |
| Houston | 10 | 28 | .263 | 14 ½ |
| NORTHWEST | | | | |
| W | L | PCT | GB | |
| Utah | 27 | 10 | .730 | — |
| Denver | 18 | 17 | .514 | 8 |
| Minnesota | 17 | 20 | .459 | 10 |
| Portland | 14 | 22 | .389 | 12 ½ |
| Oklahoma City | 13 | 23 | .361 | 13 ½ |
| PACIFIC | | | | |
| W | L | PCT | GB | |
| Golden State | 29 | 7 | .806 | — |
| Phoenix | 29 | 8 | .784 | ½ |
| L.A. Lakers | 20 | 19 | .513 | 10 ½ |
| L.A. Clippers | 19 | 19 | .500 | 11 |
| Sacramento | 16 | 23 | .410 | 14 ½ |

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit at Charlotte, late
Houston at Washington, late
Philadelphia at Orlando, late
Brooklyn at Indiana, late
Golden State at Dallas, late
San Antonio at Boston, late
Oklahoma City at Minnesota, late
Toronto at Milwaukee, late
Atlanta at Sacramento, late
Miami at Portland, late
Utah at Denver, late

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Boston at New York, 7:30p.m.
Detroit at Memphis, 8p.m.
Golden State at New Orleans, 8p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 10p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES
San Antonio at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Milwaukee at Brooklyn, 7:30p.m.
Utah at Toronto, 7:30p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 8p.m.
Minnesota at Oklahoma City, 8p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 8p.m.
Sacramento at Denver, 9p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Lakers, 10p.m.
Cleveland at Portland, 10p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Toronto 129, San Antonio 104
Memphis 110, Cleveland 106
New York 104, Indiana 94
Phoenix 123, New Orleans 110
L.A. Lakers 122, Sacramento 114

TENNIS

ATP GREAT OCEAN ROAD OPEN
Wednesday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, outdoor-hard MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
Henri Laaksonen d. #5 Benoît Paire, 6-6, 6-3, 5-2, ret.
Ricardas Berankis d. Marcos Giron, 7-5, 6-4.
Jordan Thompson d. Christopher O'Connell, 1-6, 7-5, 6-4.
Emil Ruusuvuori d. Sebastian Baez, 7-6(2), 6-1.
Max Cressy d. Rinky Hijikata, 6-3, 6-0.
Alex Molcan d. Andreas Seppi, 6-4, 6-7(6), 6-3.
Alexei Popyrin d. Stefano Travaglia 7-6(5), 6-3.
Jaume Munar d. Kevin Anderson, 6-4, 6-4.
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
Emil Ruusuvuori vs. Jordan Thompson, late
David Goffin vs. Alex Molcan, late
Gigor Dimitrov vs. Facundo Bagnis, late

ATP MURRAY RIVER OPEN
Wednesday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, outdoor-hard MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#3 Marin Cilic d. Thiago Monteiro, 6-4, 7-6(3).
Thanasi Kokkinakis d. #4 Frances Tiafoe, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1.
#7 Laslo Djere d. Core. Mount, 4-6, 7-5.
Mikael Ymer d. #8 Kwon Soung Woo, 6-3, 6-2.
Taro Daniel vs. Tommy Paul, late
Egor Gerasimov vs. Gianluca Mager, late

WTA ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL
Wednesday at Memorial Drive Tennis Centre, Australia, outdoor-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16
#1 Ashleigh Barty d. Coco Gauff, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.
Kaja Juvan d. #2 Aryna Sabalenka, 7-6(6), 6-1.
Shelby Rogers d. #3 Maria Sakkari, 7-6(5), 2-6, 6-4.
#7 Elena Rybakina d. Marie Bouzkova, 6-3, 6-4.
Iga Swiatek vs. Leylah Anne Fernandez, late
Victoria Azarenka vs. Priscilla Hon, late
Anastasia Gasanova vs. Miaki Doi, late

WTA YARRA VALLEY CLASSIC
Wednesday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Australia, outdoors-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#2 Simona Halep d. Destanee Aiava, 6-4, 6-2.
#3 Veronika Kudermetova d. Viktoria Kuzmova, 7-6(4), 7-6(6).
Anna Bondar d. #8 Katerina Siniakova, 7-5, 7-6(6).
Qinwen Zheng d. Mai Hontama, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Anastasia Potapova d. Lizette Cabrera, 5-7, 6-2, 6-2.
Clara Burel d. Zhang Shuai, 6-3, 7-6(6).
Lesley Pattinama Kerkhove d. Seone Mendez, 6-3, 6-4.
Madison Bregline d. Nao Hibino 7-6(3), 7-6(4).
Clara Burel vs. Andrea Petkovic, late
Ana Konjuh vs. Kaia Kanepli, late

MELBOURNE SUMMER SERIES
Wednesday at Melbourne Tennis Center, Australia, outdoors-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
Alaksandra Sasnovich d. Xinyi Wang, 6-4, 6-2.
Kamilla Rakhimova d. Greet Minnen, 7-5, 7-5.
Amanda Anisimova d. Sorana Cirstea, 6-4, 6-1.
Alaksandra Sasnovich vs. Rebecca Peterson, late
Madison Keys vs. Daria Kasatkina, late
Irina-Camelia Begu vs. Jasmine Paolini, late
Clara Tauson vs. Lin Zhu, late
Kamilla Rakhimova vs. Sara Sorribes Tormo, late

ODDS

| COLLEGE BASKETBALL THURSDAY FAVORITE | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|------------------|--|
| LINE | UNDERDOG | UNDERDOG | |
| at Wright State | 7 | Ill-Chicago | |
| at Indiana | 1 | Ohio State | |
| at Tennessee State | 6 | UT Martin | |
| at Illinois | 11½ | Maryland | |
| at Georgia State | 8½ | Tex Arlington | |
| Celroy | 1 | Coastal Carolina | |
| at La Monroe | 9 | Ark Little Rock | |
| at La Lafayette | 4½ | Arkansas State | |
| at Rice | 3½ | Middle Tennessee | |
| at North Texas | 1 | UAB | |
| at Neb Omaha | 3 | North Dakota | |

| NFL WEEK 18 FAVORITE | | | |
|----------------------|-----|----------------------|--|
| SP | O/U | UNDERDOG | |
| Kansas City | 10½ | (44½) at Denver | |
| Dallas | 7 | (43) at Philadelphia | |
| SUNDAY | | | |
| at Minnesota | 3½ | (44½) Chicago | |
| Washington | 7 | (38) at NY Giants | |
| Green Bay | 3½ | (44½) at Detroit | |
| Tennessee | 10 | (43) at Houston | |
| at Baltimore | 5½ | (41½) Pittsburgh | |
| Indianapolis | 15½ | (44) at Jacksonville | |
| at Cleveland | 6 | (38) Cincinnati | |
| at Arizona | 6½ | (48) Seattle | |
| New Orleans | 4½ | (40½) at Atlanta | |
| at Buffalo | 16½ | (41½) NY Jets | |
| at LA Rams | 4 | (44½) San Fran. | |
| New England | 6½ | (40) at Miami | |
| at Tampa Bay | 8 | (41½) Carolina | |
| LA Chargers | 3 | (49½) at Las Vegas | |

| NHL | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | | |
| ATLANTIC | GP | W | L | OT | PTS | GF | GA | | | |
| Tampa Bay | 35 | 22 | 8 | 5 | 49 | 116 | 103 | | | |
| Florida | 33 | 22 | 7 | 4 | 48 | 128 | 97 | | | |
| Toronto | 31 | 21 | 8 | 2 | 44 | 104 | 76 | | | |
| Boston | 29 | 17 | 10 | 2 | 36 | 85 | 76 | | | |
| Detroit | 34 | 16 | 15 | 3 | 35 | 96 | 114 | | | |
| Buffalo | 33 | 10 | 17 | 6 | 26 | 89 | 116 | | | |
| Ottawa | 29 | 9 | 18 | 2 | 20 | 79 | 107 | | | |
| Montreal | 34 | 7 | 23 | 4 | 18 | 73 | 123 | | | |
| METRO. | GP | W | L | OT | PTS | GF | GA | | | |
| N.Y. Rangers | 34 | 22 | 8 | 4 | 48 | 101 | 85 | | | |
| Washington | 34 | 20 | 6 | 8 | 48 | 119 | 89 | | | |
| Carolina | 31 | 23 | 7 | 1 | 47 | 106 | 66 | | | |
| Pittsburgh | 31 | 18 | 8 | 5 | 41 | 99 | 81 | | | |
| Philadelphia | 33 | 13 | 14 | 6 | 32 | 86 | 110 | | | |
| Columbus | 31 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 31 | 101 | 112 | | | |
| New Jersey | 34 | 13 | 16 | 5 | 31 | 99 | 121 | | | |
| N.Y. Islanders | 28 | 10 | 12 | 6 | 26 | 64 | 80 | | | |

| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| CENTRAL | GP | W | L | OT | PTS | GF | GA | | | |
| Nashville | 34 | 21 | 11 | 2 | 44 | 104 | 91 | | | |
| St. Louis | 33 | 19 | 9 | 5 | 43 | 116 | 91 | | | |
| Colorado | 29 | 19 | 8 | 2 | 40 | 123 | 96 | | | |
| Minnesota | 31 | 19 | 10 | 2 | 40 | 116 | 98 | | | |
| Winnipeg | 32 | 16 | 11 | 5 | 37 | 98 | 92 | | | |
| Dallas | 29 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 32 | 82 | 85 | | | |
| Chicago | 33 | 11 | 17 | 5 | 27 | 77 | 112 | | | |
| Arizona | 31 | 6 | 22 | 3 | 15 | 64 | 120 | | | |
| PACIFIC | GP | W | L | OT | PTS | GF | GA | | | |
| Vegas | 36 | 22 | 13 | 1 | 45 | 129 | 110 | | | |
| Anaheim | 36 | 18 | 11 | 7 | 43 | 111 | 99 | | | |
| Calgary | 31 | 17 | 8 | 6 | 40 | 100 | 73 | | | |
| Edmonton | 33 | 18 | 13 | 2 | 38 | 111 | 107 | | | |
| Los Angeles | 33 | 16 | 12 | 5 | 37 | 91 | 89 | | | |
| San Jose | 34 | 17 | 16 | 1 | 35 | 96 | 108 | | | |
| Vancouver | 34 | 16 | 15 | 3 | 35 | 89 | 95 | | | |
| Seattle | 33 | 10 | 19 | 4 | 24 | 92 | 122 | | | |

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Edmonton at Toronto, late
St. Louis at Pittsburgh, late
N.Y. Islanders at Vancouver, ppd

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Calgary at Tampa Bay, 7p.m.
Columbus at New Jersey, 7p.m.
Minnesota at Boston, 7p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
San Jose at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Florida at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Chicago at Arizona, 9p.m.
Winnipeg at Colorado, 9p.m.
Detroit at Anaheim, 10p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Vegas, 10p.m.
Nashville at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.
Toronto at Montreal, ppd
Ottawa at Seattle, ppd

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Tampa Bay 7, Columbus 2
Florida 6, Calgary 2
Boston 5, New Jersey 3
Detroit 6, San Jose 2
Colorado 4, Chicago 3, OT
Winnipeg 3, Arizona 1
Anaheim 4, Philadelphia 1
Nashville 3, Vegas 2
Washington at Montreal, ppd
N.Y. Islanders at Seattle, ppd

NFL

| AMERICAN CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|
| EAST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | | | | |
| x-Buffalo | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 456 | 279 | | | | |
| x-New England | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 438 | 270 | | | | |
| e-Miami | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 308 | 349 | | | | |
| e-N.Y. Jets | 4 | 12 | 0 | .250 | 300 | 477 | | | | |
| SOUTH | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | | | | |
| y-Tennessee | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 391 | 329 | | | | |
| Indianapolis | 9 | 7 | 0 | .563 | 440 | 339 | | | | |
| e-Houston | 4 | 12 | 0 | .250 | 255 | 424 | | | | |
| e-Jacksonville | 2 | 14 | 0 | .125 | 227 | 446 | | | | |
| NORTH | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | | | | |
| y-Cincinnati | 10 | 6 | 0 | .625 | 444 | 355 | | | | |
| Pittsburgh | 8 | 7 | 1 | .531 | 327 | 385 | | | | |
| Baltimore | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 374 | 376 | | | | |
| e-Cleveland | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 328 | 355 | | | | |
| WEST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA | | | | |
| y-Kansas City | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 452 | 340 | | | | |
| L.A. Chargers | 9 | 7 | 0 | .563 | 442 | 424 | | | | |
| Las Vegas | 9 | 7 | 0 | .563 | 339 | 407 | | | | |
| e-Denver | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 311 | 294 | | | | |

| NATIONAL CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| EAST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
| y-Dallas | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 479 | 332 |
| Philadelphia | 9 | 7 | 0 | .563 | 418 | 334 |
| e-Washington | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 313 | 427 |
| e-N.Y. Giants | 4 | 12 | 0 | .250 | 251 | 394 |
| SOUTH | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
| y-Tampa Bay | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 470 | 336 |
| New Orleans | 8 | 8 | 0 | .500 | 334 | 315 |
| e-Atlanta | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 293 | 429 |
| e-Carolina | 5 | 11 | 0 | .313 | 287 | 363 |
| NORTH | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
| z-Green Bay | 13 | 3 | 0 | .813 | 420 | 334 |
| e-Minnesota | 7 | 9 | 0 | .438 | 394 | 409 |
| e-Chicago | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 294 | 376 |
| e-Detroit | 2 | 13 | 1 | .156 | 288 | 474 |
| WEST | W | L | T | PCT | PF | PA |
| x-L.A. Rams | 12 | 4 | 0 | .750 | 436 | 345 |
| x-Arizona | 11 | 5 | 0 | .688 | 419 | 328 |
| San Francisco | 9 | 7 | 0 | .563 | 400 | 341 |
| e-Seattle | 6 | 10 | 0 | .375 | 357 | 336 |
| e-eliminated from playoffs, x-clinched | | | | | | |
| playoff spot, y-clinched division | | | | | | |
| z-clinched home-field advantage | | | | | | |

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Saturday: at Seton Hall,
noon, FOX

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Sunday: vs. Creighton
(at Gampel), 1 p.m., SNY

UConn
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UConn commit Alex Karaban is the 45th recruit in ESPN's class of 2022 rankings.

UConn Men's Basketball Recruit Scouting Report

Alex Karaban

By Shreyas Laddha
Hartford Courant

As the UConn men's basketball team finds itself with a little bit of a break until facing Seton Hall on Saturday, let's take a closer look at the Class of 2022 and Class of 2023 commits. Currently, UConn has commitments from Class of 2022 recruits Donovan Clingan and Alex Karaban along with Class of 2023 recruit Stephon Castle.

Today's focus is on Alex Karaban.

Recruit Information

School: IMG Academy
Class: 2022
Height: 6 feet 8
Weight: 220 pounds
Stats: 25.8 points, 8.7 rebounds, 2.9 assists, and 1.9 blocks
Rankings: No. 96 in the Class of 2022 according to 247sports
Accolades: 2020-21 New Hampshire Gatorade Player of the Year

Strengths

- Three-level scorer including beyond the arc, midrange and post
- Elite midrange shooter
- Impressive post-move arsenal
- Can play multiple positions
- Makes good decisions with the ball
- Capable passer
- Quick, moves like a guard when driving to the hoop
- Nice verticality allows him challenge bigger players
- Great footwork
- Rebounds the ball well even in traffic

- High motor
- Fundamentally sound on both sides of the court
- Moves well laterally on defense

Weaknesses

- Needs to put on muscle
- Faster players could potentially be a problem for him
- At times lacks in rim protection
- Needs to become a bit more explosive
- Finding the right fit for him position wise in college could be a challenge.

NCAA player comparison

- Shades of former Tennessee Vol Grant Williams (post game, passing)
- Also former Maryland Terp Kevin Huerter (positional versatility, shooting)
- And current Virginia Tech Hokie Keve Aluma (post game, defensive presence)

Summary

Karaban is the definition of a modern-day basketball player. In many ways he is a matchup nightmare that can play multiple positions on the court. He can play anywhere from guard to wing to big and ultimately what he plays will come down to how UConn coach Dan Hurley values him. At the high school level he plays a lot like a cross between a wing and big with a lot of self-creation on offense which should be lessened in the college game. For UConn he has the chance to be an elite glue guy on the floor that can score from anywhere and is a capable passer that rebounds well. The biggest question for UConn will be finding what style/position that maximizes his talents.

UConn

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points in the fourth, a huge step forward for the freshman who had taken a few games to find her footing. "She's not afraid of big moments and she's gonna get a ton of minutes from here on in the rest of the season," Auriemma said.

But what was concerning was that the rest of the team managed just six, all of which came in the final minute as the Huskies saw a six-point lead turn into a six-point deficit.

All players aside from Ducharme shot 3 of 13 in the fourth, and seniors Christyn Williams and Evina Westbrook combined for just four points on 2-for-8 shooting.

"It's not something that we're used to, where players struggle in the fourth quarter to make plays, to make shots," Auriemma said. "And not only that, but don't make dumb decisions, don't make silly plays that make it even harder to win. It's hard enough to win the game without beating yourself, and that's something that we traditionally don't do here. And it's showed up now in those three losses in the fourth quarter. That needs to be addressed and hopefully we pay more attention to that."

While Louisville may have its own flaws, it made the plays needed to win. UConn turned the ball over four times in the fourth, mostly unforced errors,

whereas Louisville showed poise by committing zero turnovers. The Cardinals went 5 of 9 from the field in the fourth (3-for-3 on 3s), and a commendable 14 of 16 from the free throw line.

"And that's what good teams do. When they have an opportunity to put the game away, they put it away," Auriemma said.

While UConn's offensive issues have been most glaring, there have been stretches where a lack of defense has hurt. Up until the Huskies started to intentionally foul, Louisville had just three empty possessions on offense, scoring on its other eight. Aside from Olivia Cochran's scoreless trip to the free-throw line at the 1:10 mark, the Huskies didn't get a stop or force a turnover on the defensive end after the 5:02 mark — hardly a winning formula.

"We did our part, we scored when we came down, but so did they, so we could never really cut the deficit that much," Auriemma said. "But there were a couple of big shots that were made by them, and a couple of threes that went in for them were really, really game breakers."

Louisville entered the game not shooting a ton of 3s (and making 35.4% of them). Sophomore Hailey Van Lith in particular was struggling from the arc all season, hitting just 15% of her shots from the perimeter entering the game. But when her team needed it most, Van Lith — accidentally left open two times when Ducharme, her defender, lost her on the wing

— hit a pair of 3s on consecutive possessions to give Louisville the lead for good.

"Van Lith's shots, those were tough shots going from one side of the floor all the way to the other and we had a couple of defensive breakdowns there, but still, the kid had to make the shots and you have to respond when that happens. First, you got to get a stop. But second, you have to respond when they score like that, and we just didn't have enough people responding."

There's plenty of time for the Huskies, who have been dealing with COVID-19 issues and have seen their first four games back from the holiday break canceled, to correct their late-game execution, including in their three remaining nonconference games against Oregon, South Carolina and Tennessee. Things will get easier once their four injured players return, although there's little doubt the Huskies' most experienced core (Williams, Westbrook, Olivia Nelson-Ododa and Dorka Juhász) will be expected to step up more consistently, especially as Bueckers remains sidelined.

The experience, either way, will also help them for when it matters most in March and maybe April.

"I really got to feel like if we keep putting ourselves in that situation, then we're gonna win our share of those," Auriemma said.

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com

Soar

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The winter Olympics begin Feb. 4 in Beijing and Soar and her teammates will be leaving from Los Angeles on Jan. 27. China has very strict COVID protocols and athletes will be tested before they leave.

"We will take these really sensitive tests in L.A. before we get on that plane and you can't test positive for any reason," Soar said. "Let's say you had it two months ago but it's still in your system, you can't go. That's what's so anxiety-inducing. It's a game-ender."

So she is alone, in a family friend's home, for the next three weeks. Soar does get out and practice moguls every day, masked and socially distanced. She works out at home. She goes for walks. She bought a pair of snowshoes so she can get out in the snow. She watches TV and reads books.

It's not how a mogul skier would normally prepare for the Olympics.

"Obviously, we always want to compete and it would be great to compete some more before going to the Olympics, but we're in such a crazy time right now, where getting COVID will end it all," she said. "So you kind of have to reevaluate your strategy in a really unique way."

"There's a part of you that's preparing to win the Olympics and then there's another part of you that needs to make sure you get on that plane to go. There's always the threat of getting hurt or sick, something happening before the Olym-

pics normally, but with COVID, it's so in your face. Especially with this surge that just occurred. It made everything go in lockdown mode really fast."

Soar, who started skiing at Killington when she was 18 months old and was exploring all the trails on the mountain at age 3 ½, had a breakout season last year. She finished the 2020-21 season as the third-ranked mogul skier in the world.

In a moguls competition, the skiers negotiate a moguls course with two jumps in the middle and the scoring is based on speed and degree of difficulty of the jumps.

Soar does plan on competing in the World Cup at Deer Valley in Park City Jan. 13-14 but she will remain alone and not join the team for any activities outside of the competition.

"There's still stuff to work on, things to perfect," she said. "The goal going to Deer Valley is to get a podium [finish] rolling into the Olympics."

Killington is one of her sponsors and though she's skied all over the world, the mountain remains one of her favorite places to ski and visit and she and her family are well known at the ski area.

"I thought it would be fun to come back to Vermont right after I got the news because that community is so invested in the Olympics and mogul skiing and it would have been fun to celebrate together," Soar said. "But hopefully we'll get to celebrate after the Olympics."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

Amore

from Page 1

league team. He returned to his hometown, Baie-Comeau, 350 miles northeast of Montreal, on the shore of the Saint Lawrence River, and worked overnight in a convenience store, then as a chef's assistant.

He learned the fundamental truth about himself: He was a *hockey player*."

"There was a senior league, semi-pro," Labrie said, "and one guy got hurt. When the team learned I was back home, they said, if you can come and take the spot. It was a little money on the side, they were paying per game."

A teammate contacted someone with the Coaticook Fronaliers, who offered Labrie a chance to restart his career at the Junior A level in 2003, and he scored 13 goals in 46 games.

"It's weird," he said, "because when you're against the wall and you get another chance, you kind of embrace it and you find that kind of lifestyle way more valuable than in the past. Not everybody gets a second chance to play."

Labrie turned pro in 2007 with the AHL's Manitoba Moose, the Vancouver Canucks' affiliate. He has since been traded twice, latched on seven times as a free agent. He reached the NHL in 2011 and played part of the next three seasons with the Lightning. Now, he gives words to the wise to players as much as 15 years younger on their way up to the big league, this year to players headed up to the Rangers, Hartford's parent.

"I just say 'Good luck, have fun and embrace every moment,'" Labrie said. "But also, 'Don't forget how you got there and all the effort you had to make to reach the NHL.' They want you for who you are, you just have to keep being you and not change anything. A lot of people say it's an easier league to play in because

everyone understands their role and where they need to be on the ice."

Labrie and his wife, Jana Puize-Roy, the daughter of legendary goalie Patrick Roy, have two sons. The youngest, Lionel, was born on New Year's Eve 2018 while Labrie was with Milwaukee Admirals. He had arrived in Grand Rapids for the next night's game when Jana called about to say her water broke. Unable to get a car service, nor a rental, nor Uber or Lyft for a 5 ½-hour ride back to Milwaukee on a snowy New Year's Eve, he found a player on the other team, Tom McCollum, was willing to lend his truck, but he was on a bus returning from Cleveland. McCollum's wife drove the truck to Labrie's hotel.

"I managed to hit a blizzard at the bottom of the lake," Labrie said. "I drove through it and made it 20 minutes before our son was born. It was a race against time."


Labrie didn't know McCollum, had never been his teammate, but he did throw a punch at him in a game a few years earlier. That's hockey, for the player's player, and even if Labrie's ride isn't over, he can still reflect on how awesome an adventure it has been. He'd like to find a post-playing role in the game, when they finally do tear the sweater off his back and his phone goes silent.

"During the summer, I do other stuff, construction," Labrie said. "I like to keep my mind busy. But I always go back at the end of the day, it's hockey. It's something I can't get away from, it's always in the back of my mind. I just love the spirit at the rink, I always bring a smile to the arena because what we do is pretty unique. It gives you a lifestyle and an adventure. Not a lot of people realize the chance we have to do what we love. As long as the body can let me play I want to keep playing. The best thing in life is to do what you love."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com



P.C. Labrie, 35, has played for 16 teams in seven leagues. This season, he is offering muscle and sage advice with the Wolf Pack. **WOLF PACK**



Safety Tip of the Day

Snow and ice can block the nozzles that release wiper fluid onto your windshield. Regularly check the nozzles, and if they've become clogged with ice, use a de-icer.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

NFL eyes backup Super Bowl sites

The NFL, not surprisingly in the midst of a rise in COVID-19 cases, has looked into other potential sites for next month's Super Bowl. That's not unusual because the league does so every year. But with Los Angeles the site for this year's title game, and restrictions increasing for attendance at indoor events, it has become more noteworthy. "We plan on playing Super Bowl 56 as scheduled at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles on Sunday, Feb. 13," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said Wednesday. "As part of our standard contingency process for all regular and postseason games, we have contacted several clubs to inquire about stadium availability in the event we cannot play the Super Bowl as scheduled due to weather-related issues or unforeseen circumstances. Our planning process for the Super Bowl in LA is ahead of schedule and we look forward to hosting the Super Bowl there to culminate another fantastic season for our fans and clubs." AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, the home of the Cowboys, reportedly is one of the facilities contacted. The stadium hosted the Rose Bowl in 2021 when it was switched from Pasadena because of COVID-19 restrictions in California. The Super Bowl at SoFi Stadium is scheduled for Feb. 13.

Chen talks gold pursuit with Lysacek



Nathan Chen already is one of America's most accomplished figure skaters. That doesn't mean he wouldn't take advice from a predecessor. Chen, who goes for his sixth consecutive national championship this week in Nashville, Tennessee, at what amounts to the Olympic trials for next month's Beijing Games, has spoken with 2010 gold medalist Evan Lysacek about the path to the top of the podium. Chen, 22, understands that heading to and then on the Olympic ice, everything must come together. That didn't happen for him in 2018. Asked whether he had spoken with any of the past U.S. champs, Chen, above, mentioned Lysacek. "... Just sharing some of the things I have dealt with over the past few years, kind of similar things he dealt with," Chen said. "Kind of framing perspectives around the Olympics and how although it is an extremely meaningful event ... whether you win or lose, you're still going to go home and see your same friends and families; still do the same activities. One moment is not going to define the rest of your life in regards to the Olympics or even just in the sport."

Ex-US Soccer boss wants job again

Carlos Cordeiro is running to regain his job as U.S. Soccer Federation president, two years after he quit amid a backlash to the group's lawyers filing legal papers claiming the women's national team players had less physical ability than their male counterparts. Cordeiro was immediately criticized by women's national team star Megan Rapinoe, who accused him in a tweet of allowing "caveman levels of misogyny." Cordeiro, 66, headed the federation from 2018-20. He resigned in March 2020, three days after the federation's filing prompted widespread criticism. The filing said that the women's team players who sued the organization in a pay dispute "ask the court to conclude that the ability required of an WNT player is equal to the ability required of an MNT player, as a relative matter, by ignoring the materially higher level of speed and strength required to perform the job of an MNT player." "In hindsight, I realize that a matter of this importance deserved much more personal oversight from me so that the Federation's filings showed our women's players the respect and dignity they deserve," Cordeiro said in a statement Wednesday. "... I will make it a top priority to reach a settlement with our women's team players ... who deserve equal pay." —AP



Georgia coach Kirby Smart and Alabama coach Nick Saban catch up before last month's SEC championship game. **APFILE**

CFP CHAMPIONSHIP

Rematch adds wrinkle

Alabama aiming to buck history in title game

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

A mere 37 days after they last played, Alabama faces Georgia again with a national championship on the line. History shows how tough it is to win again in the rematch. Nick Saban knows that first-hand — from the losing side. During the 2011 season, Saban's Crimson Tide were edged by LSU 9-6 in overtime during the regular season. When the powerhouses met about two months later in the BCS championship game at New Orleans, Alabama smothered the unbeaten Tigers 21-0. Now, it's the Tide (13-1) on the other side, looking to beat Georgia (13-1) for the second time in a little over a month after a 41-24 cakewalk in the SEC championship game on Dec. 4. They meet again Monday night at Indianapolis in the College Football Playoff title game, their last meeting separated only by a pair of easy victories in the semifinal bowl games. Saban tried to shrug off any comparisons to 2011, for obvious reasons. This time, he's the one who'll have to beat an SEC rival for the second time to finish No. 1. "Those two games were extremely hard-fought, close games in both circumstances, and I would expect the same in this game," Saban said. "I don't know that there's anything that I can really take from that (2011) experience that's going to have any effect or impact on this one."

Georgia is hoping to replicate a similar scenario from the 2017 season. The Bulldogs were blown out by Auburn 40-17 during the regular season, but got another crack at the Tigers three weeks later in the SEC championship game. Again, it was no contest, only the rematch had Georgia romping to a 28-7 victory that sent the Bulldogs to the College Football Playoff. Georgia coach Kirby Smart conceded that some key things have changed compared to what was on film leading up to this season's SEC championship game. The Bulldogs can now study what they did wrong in their only loss of the season, as well as an impressive bounce-back victory over Michigan in the Orange Bowl semifinal on New Year's Eve. "You've got to be careful," Smart said. "What tendencies changed, what matchups we're looking for, who is in, who is out. There's a lot of things that go into it." There are a couple of reasons why a second meeting during the same season can be so much different than the first. For one, the team that lost usually has plenty of obvious things it can work on in practice to try to reverse the outcome. Not so for the winning team, which has a natural tendency to stick with what worked so well. More important, perhaps, is the mental side. A team that lost usually finds it a lot easier to get motivated heading into the rematch. Rest assured, the Bulldogs — a unanimous No. 1 much of the season — have

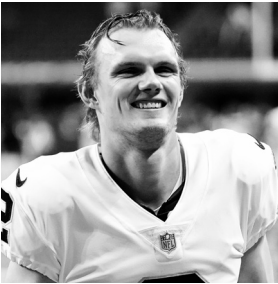
a huge chip on their shoulders after the way they were manhandled by the Crimson Tide last month. "You can only judge a man by what he does next and how hard he gets hit and gets back up," Georgia linebacker Nolan Smith said. "We got hit pretty hard." Rematches are rare in college football, but it's common in the NFL where division foes meet twice a year. Georgia offensive coordinator Todd Monken has plenty of experience at that from his time in the pros. Monken said doesn't expect major chances from either team, but knows there will be some opportunities to break out a new wrinkle here, a tweak there. This will be the first rematch in the CFP's eight-year history, but pre-playoff matchups provide some hopeful signs for the Bulldogs. During the 1996 season, for instance, Florida lost its regular-season finale to Florida State 24-21 — a game that left Gators coach Steve Spurrier seething over what he perceived as cheap shots by the Seminoles that went unpenalized. Florida earned another crack at its Sunshine State rival by beating Alabama in the SEC championship game. In the Sugar Bowl, the fired-up Gators blew out Florida State 52-20 to claim what would be Spurrier's only national championship. "You see why I didn't want to play them again, don't you?" Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said afterward. "Too good." Saban hopes he's not saying the same thing about Georgia late Monday night.

NFL INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Last-play victories part of season story

By Josh Dubow | Associated Press

In a record-setting season for last-play wins, no team has sweated it out more than the Raiders. After game-winning field goals on the final play this week by the Bengals' Evan McPherson and Raiders' Daniel Carlson, there have been 32 games decided by a winning score on the final play, the most in NFL history. Carlson has provided four of those wins himself, making overtime field goals to beat the Dolphins in Week 3 and the Cowboys on Thanksgiving, along with kicks at the end of regulation against the Browns in Week 15 and the Colts last week. The Raiders also won on a walk-off overtime TD pass from Derek Carr to Zay Jones in the opener against the Ravens, becoming the first NFL team to win five games in a season with a score on the final play. There have been 46 games this season with the game-winning score coming in the final minute of regulation or in OT, the fifth-most in NFL history. Only 2013 (49), 2015 (49), 2003 (48) and 2002 (47) had more.



Daniel Carlson has kicked four last-play field goals to lift the Raiders to wins this season. **AJMAST/AP**

Division dominance

Aaron Rodgers is on the verge of another near-perfect passing season against the NFC North. Rodgers has thrown 16 TD passes without an interception this season for the Packers against their division foes. This comes after Rodgers had 20 TD passes and no interceptions against the Lions, Bears and Vikings in 2020. There have been only four seasons since the merger when a quarterback threw at least 15 TD passes without an interception. Rodgers has three of them, having also thrown 18 TD passes and no interceptions in the NFC North in 2014. The only other quarterback to do it was Rodgers' former teammate Brett Favre, who had 15 TD passes and no interceptions for the Vikings against the NFC North in 2009.

Coaching excellence

Rodgers has helped the Packers win at least 13 games for the third time under third-year coach Matt LaFleur. LaFleur is already tied for the fourth-most 13-win seasons for a coach in NFL history, trailing only Bill Belichick (seven), Sean Payton (four) and George Seifert (four). The Steelers' Mike Tomlin set another mark, as he's once again assured of not having a losing season. Tomlin has never had a losing season in 15 years with the Steelers, breaking Marty Schottenheimer's record for the most consecutive years to start a coaching career.

Turnaround teams

The Bengals completed a worst-to-first turnaround. They clinched the AFC North title for the first since 2015 a year after finishing last in the division, marking the 17th time in the last 19 seasons that a team won the division a year after finishing last or tied for last. The Cowboys also won the division, marking the 18th time in the last 19 seasons that at least two teams won the division a year after missing the playoffs. The Cardinals and Patriots clinched the playoffs after missing out last season and can join the Cowboys and Bengals as division winners by winning in Week 18 and getting some help. The Eagles also clinched the playoffs after missing last season. This is the 32nd straight season that at least four teams made the playoffs after missing out the previous season. The 49ers, Raiders and Chargers can join them with wins this week.

Go for it

The NFL set a record this season for fourth-down aggressiveness. Teams have gone for it on 734 fourth downs, 76 more than the previous high set last season. Teams converted on 386 of those attempts, breaking the record of 362 set in 2020. There have already been more than twice as many successful fourth-down tries in the NFL as there were a decade ago, when teams had 186 in 2011. The success rate of 52.6% will fall a bit shy of the previous high from the last 30 years of 55.7% in 2018 and the 55% last season.

Extra game

The NFL got the edge from the extra 17th game added to the schedule this season, winning 10 of the 16 matchups despite all of them coming in AFC stadiums. The league added the extra game for 2021, matching up teams that finished in the same place in their respective divisions.

Hartford Courant

FLAVOR

LIVING

Beauty in imperfection

By Genevieve Ko
The New York Times

It was nearing midnight on Day 8 of a two-week photo shoot when I rolled out dough for a sheet of graham crackers. Using a long ruler as a guide, I cut perfect rectangles, then pressed straight lines of dots with a fork. Going into the oven, it looked flawless. Coming out, it had buckled over the parchment paper and creased like a shirt crammed in a drawer.

Disappointed, I figured I would make a new batch the next morning. When the photographer, Romulo Yanes, arrived, I showed him the ruined crackers and told him I would get another tray ready.

He stopped me and told me — scolded me, really — that those wrinkles are what made the baked dough beautiful. I thought he was just saying that to be nice since the shoot was for my first solo cookbook, but he took the pan and set it under his camera. Even before his monitors were set up, he snapped a shot. He motioned me over and chuckled while showing me the image on the viewfinder.

“See? It’s gorgeous,” he said. “Come on, let’s eat.”

In a world where anything short of ideal seems unacceptable, Romulo helped me to find the beauty in imperfections, to see how mistakes can lead to something surprising and possibly even better. It was a master class in grace, as was his practice of taking time to share a meal with those around him. With these years marred by grief and in this season of feeling loss more acutely, I think often of Romulo, who died from cancer in June. I remember him and especially those two lessons that he taught me that day, and again on every shoot.

Romulo’s food photography is often recognized for his clear love of what’s on the other side of the lens. But those who have been on set with him know that his images also convey how he valued the



A poached egg and ham breakfast sandwich. The simple act of preparing a big batch of eggs teaches the importance of connecting through cooking. **SANG AN/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

people around the food — how he worked with us, flaws and all, and turned our dishes into beautiful things, then gathered us around the table to share in them.

On most photo shoots, breakfast is sips of coffee and bites of muffin taken while setting up. But Romulo would cajole us to begin each day with a hot meal together, even if we just wanted to get to work. One morning, he walked into the kitchen to cook us breakfast. He craved a poached egg on a buttered English muffin and wanted to make each of us one. The stylists, assistants and I gathered around the stove, where Romulo put a skillet of water over the flame.

He carefully lowered half a dozen eggs into the boiling water

and rolled them back and forth for 20 seconds or so, then scooped them back out, one by one. When asked why he first put the eggs into the pan while they were still in their shells, Romulo explained that the brief glide in bubbling water prevented the whites from later spreading into a lacy fringe. He confessed that he had no idea whether there was any scientific merit to this, then tipped a splash of vinegar into the pan, which definitely does help the whites set. He cracked the eggs in, spacing them apart as if on a sundial, and cheered when they didn’t spread.

The eggs immediately ballooned, staying nice and tight, and going from clear to white, then they began to bob as they firmed up. After a few

minutes, Romulo nudged the yolks to make sure they wobbled only a bit and spooned the eggs out onto paper towels.

They weren’t five-star-hotel Benedict eggs, round as globes after spinning in a whirlpool of boiling water or being coddled in a ladle. They were shaped like friendly ghosts — no frilly rim but curved edges and the slope of diner-poached eggs. Because all six were ready at the same time, we got to sit together and eat them hot, the yolks running into the toasted crags of our English muffins.

It didn’t matter that the eggs weren’t picture-perfect. What did matter was the time we took to stop hustling and to connect with one another.

Skillet poached eggs

Makes: 2 to 6 servings
Total time: 10 minutes
2 to 6 large eggs
1 teaspoon distilled white vinegar
Butter and toast, for serving
Ham and cheese, for serving (optional)
Salt and pepper, for serving

1. Fill a large skillet, ideally one with straight, tall sides, with water to a depth of 1 ½ inches. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Using a slotted spoon, carefully place the whole, uncracked eggs in the water and roll them around for 15 to 20 seconds, so they’re evenly warm. Take them out of the skillet. Add the vinegar to the boiling water.

2. Crack the eggs into the boiling water one at a time, spacing them apart (if they’re too hot to the touch, wait a few seconds until they feel OK to handle). Adjust the heat to keep the water steadily and lightly boiling. Let the eggs poach until the whites are opaque and firm, and the yolks are set to your desired doneness, 3 to 6 minutes. Gently nudge the yolk with the spoon to check for doneness: Very runny yolks will wobble like a water balloon; standard runny yolks will feel soft but set; firm yolks will feel solid.

3. Transfer to paper towels with the slotted spoon and gently pat dry. Butter toast and layer with ham and cheese, if using. Place poached eggs on top, season with salt and pepper, and top with another pat of butter, if you like.

Ward off chills with chicken pozole

By Gretchen McKay
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Soup season is officially upon us, and how better to chase away the sniffles (in your mind, anyway) than with some flavorful chicken soup?

This easy, hominy-based Mexican soup is full of vibrant flavors, thanks to the addition of tangy salsa verde and a generous squeeze of lime. It features chicken thigh simmered in chicken broth flavored with onion, jalapeño and oregano until it’s fall-apart tender.

The shredded meat then gets added back into the liquid with the blended vegetables and ready-to-eat canned hominy, a type of corn that has been soaked in an alkali solution to soften the tough outer hulls.

The original recipe from food blogger Isabel Orozco-Moore of [Isabeleats.com](#) incorporates fresh tomatillos, but my local grocery had none. So I substituted jarred salsa verde with pretty tasty results.

Sliced radish and jalapeño add bright colors to the soup. You also could crush a handful of tortilla chips on top for a salty finish.



Hot and nourishing, this easy chicken pozole is made with jarred salsa verde. **GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE**

Easy chicken pozole verde

Makes: 6-8 servings
5-6 boneless chicken thighs, skin removed (about 2 pounds)
½ large Spanish onion, chopped
2 jalapeño peppers, seeded and chopped (or keep the seeds if you like it spicy)
5 cups chicken broth
1 cup water
1 tablespoon dried oregano
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 cups medium salsa verde
Large handful chopped fresh cilantro, plus more for serving
2 15-ounce cans white hominy, drained and rinsed
Sliced lime, radishes and jalapeños, for garnish

1. In a large pot or Dutch oven, add chicken thighs, onion, jalapeños, chicken broth, water and oregano. Season generously with kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper. Place over high heat and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to simmer and cover partially. Cook for 40 minutes, or until chicken is fall-apart tender.

2. Transfer chicken to cutting board and shred with a fork. Set aside.

3. Using a large slotted spoon, place the onions and jalapeños in a large blender. Add a large handful of fresh cilantro, a cup or so of the cooking liquid and puree until completely smooth.

4. Add the shredded chicken, pureed veggies, jarred salsa and hominy into the large pot. Stir and cook over medium-high heat for 15 minutes uncovered. If the soup is too thick, add a little more chicken broth or water. Season to taste with additional salt and pepper, if needed.

5. Serve with fresh lime juice, radishes, sliced jalapeño and chopped cilantro. — Adapted from [isabeleats.com](#)

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Most fun snack you’ve ever eaten

By Kelli Foster
TheKitchn.com

I’m not exaggerating when I say that bubble waffles are the most fun snack I’ve ever eaten. You deserve the same warning I gave my colleague, Lauren, when she told me she was trying these bubble waffles: You’re not going to be able to stop eating them. You’ll want to keep going back for one more bubble. (Spoiler: It will not be just one more bite.)

With soft and spongy, cake-like spheres and a crispy, crunchy web that just might remind you of a cookie, bubble waffles are totally irresistible and incredibly fun to eat. Also known as egg waffles, egg puffs and puffles, bubble waffles are a popular street food snack that originated in Hong Kong in the 1950s.

They’re commonly rolled into a cone and filled with colorful ice cream or whipped cream, but they’re also really delicious (and still totally impressive) served flat with a dusting of powdered sugar and fresh fruit. Or you can just pop them in your mouth one by one. There’s no wrong way to eat them.

What are bubble waffles?

The specific origin of bubble waffles, or gai daan jai, is unclear, but what we do know is that they were first made in Hong Kong after the war, most likely by a thrifty vendor trying to make the most of cracked or broken eggs by turning them into a humble pastry.

These days, there are shops and stands around the world selling bubble waffles, and you can even make them in your own kitchen.

Do bubble waffles require

Bubble waffles

Makes: 4 to 5 waffles
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
¾ cup granulated sugar
2 teaspoons cornstarch
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon kosher salt
2 large eggs
½ cup milk
½ cup water
3 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Nonstick cooking spray
For serving (optional):
Whipped cream
Ice cream
Sliced strawberries
Fresh raspberries or blueberries
Powdered sugar
Nutella
Chocolate sauce
1. Arrange a rack in the middle of the oven and heat the oven to 200 degrees.
2. Place 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour, ¾ cup granulated sugar, 2 teaspoons cornstarch, 2 teaspoons baking powder and ½ teaspoon kosher salt in a large bowl and whisk to combine. If you have one, use a spouted bowl.
3. Lightly beat 2 large eggs in a medium bowl. Add ½ cup milk, ½ cup water, 3 tablespoons canola or vegetable oil and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, and whisk to combine. Pour into the flour mixture and whisk until smooth and no streaks of flour remain.
4. Heat the bubble waffle

maker according to the manufacturer instructions. Spray both sides of the waffle maker with cooking spray.
5. If not using a spouted bowl, transfer batter to large, spouted measuring cup. Pour batter into waffle maker, filling each well all the way. Do not worry so much about the space between the wells; if you try to cover the whole surface, you will overfill the waffle maker.
6. Cook according to the manufacturer’s instructions, or for 2 minutes, then flip the waffle maker over and cook until golden brown all over, 2 minutes more. Do not open the waffle maker until the cook time is up. (You will need ⅔ to ¾ cup batter per waffle. Consult the manufacturer’s instructions for each model for specific guidelines.)
7. Transfer cooked waffles to a baking sheet and keep warm in the oven. If you plan to fold and fill the bubble waffle, drape over a rolling pin or glass immediately after it comes out of the waffle maker, when it is soft and easily pliable. The waffle will firm up as it cools.
Note: Although we recommend serving these right away, cooked and cooled waffles can be refrigerated in an airtight container for up to three days or frozen for up to three months.

special equipment?

Yes, you’ll need a bubble waffle maker to make bubble waffles. There are electric and stove-top bubble waffle makers. We’re partial to the electric version, as it’s easier to control the temperature.

Bubble waffles versus regular waffles

There are a few differences that set bubble waffles apart from American or Belgian-style waffles. Bubble waffles look like a web of spheres that resemble mini eggs or bubble wrap, and have a taste that is sweeter and eggier. Regular waffles have a grid-like appearance with deep



This recipe is worth getting a fun, new waffle maker. **KELLI FOSTER/THEKITCHNCOM**

wells, and a taste that’s subtly sweet.

Bubble waffle toppings

The toppings are a huge part of what makes bubble waffles so much fun to eat. Serve them flat, piled with your favorite toppings, or fold the waffle into a cone and fill it up. The waffles

are softest and most pliable when they’re hot, and firm up as they cool. So, if you plan to fold them into a cone, be sure to fold the warm waffle over a rolling pin or glass as soon as it comes out of the waffle maker.

As for toppings, the sky’s the limit. Here are a few of

the most popular toppings, as well as our favorites:
■ Ice cream
■ Whipped cream
■ Coconut whipped cream
■ Sliced berries, fresh fruit
■ Candy
■ Sprinkles
■ Cookies
■ Chocolate sauce
■ Powdered sugar

For simple twist on wintry salad, cook the dressing

By Christopher Kimball
For Associated Press

Traditions often rule the table, but that doesn’t mean they can’t be updated. One simple update to a wintry seasonal salad is to cook the dressing, which slightly softens sturdy bitter greens while adding bold flavor.

In this recipe from our book “Milk Street Tuesday Nights,” which limits recipes to 45 minutes or less, we pair bitter greens with a rich, warm dressing.

The inspiration was the French bistro staple salade frisée au lardons, typically made with bitter frisée lettuce, a poached egg and meaty chunks of salt pork.

For our take, we cook pancetta and shallots with Dijon mustard, olive oil and sherry vinegar for a bright yet comforting dressing to drizzle onto the greens just before serving.

Any combination of bitter greens, such as frisée, endive, radicchio, escarole or arugula, works well in this recipe. The greens are best served at room temperature so the dressing doesn’t congeal on contact.

Toasted walnuts offer an aromatic crunch that complements curls of nutty Parmesan cheese.

To toast the nuts, we spread them evenly on a rimmed baking sheet



Cook pancetta and shallots with Dijon mustard, olive oil and sherry vinegar for a bright yet comforting dressing to drizzle onto the greens just before serving. **MILK STREET**

and bake at 350 degrees until lightly browned and fragrant, 5 to 7 minutes.

A sharp Y-shaped vegetable peeler is the perfect

tool for shaving the cheese.

You can also top the salad with a runny fried egg for a heartier meal evocative of its bistro roots.

Greens with walnuts, Parmesan and pancetta vinaigrette

Total time: 15 minutes
Makes: 6 servings
12 ounces (12 cups) mixed bitter greens, torn
2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
Kosher salt and ground black pepper
6 ounces thinly sliced pancetta, chopped
1 medium shallot, finely chopped
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 cup walnuts, toasted and coarsely chopped
1 ounce Parmesan cheese, shaved (about ½ cup)
1. Place the greens in a large bowl and set aside. In a separate bowl, whisk together the

vinegar, mustard and ¼ teaspoon salt.
2. In a medium skillet over medium heat, cook the pancetta, stirring occasionally, until crisp, about 7 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the pancetta to a paper towel-lined plate. Pour off all but 1 tablespoon pancetta fat from the skillet, then return it to medium heat. Add the shallot and cook, stirring, until light golden brown, about 2 minutes. Add the oil and the vinegar mixture, then remove from the heat and whisk until combined. Let sit for 30 seconds to warm through.
3. Add the warm dressing, walnuts and 1 teaspoon pepper to the greens and toss well. Taste and season with salt. Divide the salad among plates and top each portion with pancetta and Parmesan.

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California cabernet beyond the stereotypes

By Eric Asimov
The New York Times

California cabernet sauvignon occupies a paradoxical position in the United States. It's the country's signature wine, yet it holds little interest among important groups of wine drinkers. Younger people in particular seem to ignore it.

Cabernet is not alone in this regard. California chardonnay, too, is both popular and polarizing. Bordeaux is another wine that in recent years has divided its audience.

We try not to be moved by fashion here. But we recognize and honor history. Cabernet sauvignon, when planted in the right places and farmed and vinified with care and humility, has produced wines that have been considered among the greatest, not just for decades but for centuries.

If people say they are repelled by California cabernet, or by chardonnay or Bordeaux, we take them at their word. But we also feel compelled to understand the reason for the distaste.

Is it the result of years of experience with many wines? Or perhaps it was one or two disappointing bottles? Maybe it was something they read.

That was the case when many Americans turned on Bordeaux a decade or so ago. A lot of young wine professionals and consumers said they had no interest in a wine that had served as the formative experience for generations of wine drinkers. How could this be?

It turned out that quite a few people who said they choose not to drink Bordeaux in fact had little experience with it at all. What they did not like were its connotations.

They associated Bordeaux with older, wealthier people and status seekers, with powerful critics like Robert Parker Jr.,



PEPE SERRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

who liked an extravagant, ultraripe style.

Yet focusing on what a wine signifies obscures the reality of the wines and the place. Many Bordeaux wines are superexpensive, but not all of them. Many are owned by conglomerates who market the wines as luxury wines, but a good number are produced by small, serious farmers. Some producers indeed changed their style to appeal to Parker, but many never did.

The point is that no wine, no place and no grape are ever just one thing. Saying,

“I don’t like Bordeaux,” “I don’t like chardonnay” or “I don’t like riesling” is generally an imprecise overgeneralization. In other words, it’s often a lazy opinion.

The anti-Bordeaux backlash, by the way, has waned in recent years as the Bordeaux region realized it had an image problem in the United States and began a targeted marketing campaign in response. Parker’s influence ebbed before he finally retired in 2019, and some Bordeaux producers who went too far in pursuit of opulence

and high scores from critics have more recently struck a better balance.

I mention this all as context for discussing cabernet from California. Over the past month, we have been drinking California cabernet made outside Napa Valley, the center of American cabernet production and, in a sense, the Bordeaux of California.

Napa has been subject to the same sort of criticism as Bordeaux. And since Napa is so identified with cabernet sauvignon, many people extrapolate their criticism to Californian

cabernet in general.

One reader, Zac of the New York City borough of Brooklyn, said: “I’m disappointed every time I have a California cabernet. They are just one-dimensional.”

While Zac represents what a significant number of wine drinkers believe, not that many readers seemed as predisposed to negativity. Bob Brown of Ventura County, California, was more typical in saying, “Long live affordable, elegant, subtle California cabernet.”

Even though I have been focusing on those who feel negatively about California cabernets, it’s worth remembering that it’s generally highly popular. People willingly pay a lot of money for a bottle, especially for Napa cabernet.

At the same time, California cabernet can be legitimately criticized. Too much is made, often from areas not suited to cabernet, for one thing. A lot of cabernet, both inexpensive and ultraexpensive, is overly manipulated, for another.

As I do each month, I suggested three bottles for people to drink over the course of the month.

They were: Camp Sonoma County Cabernet Sauvignon 2019, Domaine Eden Santa Cruz Mountains Cabernet Sauvignon 2017 and Broadside Paso Robles Margarita Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon 2018.

The idea was to try three cabernets from three different places outside Napa Valley. The three also happen to be quite different in style, which I hoped might signal that speaking overly generally about California cabernet is often foolish.

The variations in the wines are partly a matter of place and vintage, but not entirely. The biggest factor is the intent of the wine-maker. It’s worth mentioning, too, that cabernet sauvignons in California are often blends of grapes.

The rule in the state is that a wine must be at least 75% cabernet if the wine is to be labeled varietally. Each of the featured bottles is a blend.

The Camp was 86% cabernet, 12% merlot and 2% malbec. It was ripe and juicy, easy to drink despite its youth, with a cedary aroma and flavors of herbs and red fruits. It was not lean, but it was well toned, without a lot of the fleshiness or sweet fruit often associated with Napa cabernets.

Overall, I found it uncomplicated yet savory and refreshing, a good drink of wine. It was \$22.

The Domaine Eden — 82% cabernet, 11% merlot and the rest cabernet franc, petit verdot and malbec — was more than twice as expensive, at \$51, which discouraged many people from trying it. It was terrific.

It was more voluminous than the Camp, and more complex, with savory floral, herbal and fruit flavors, and a touch of oak. It had greater depth and dimension, and it will age and evolve. It’s young and should lose some of the baby fat over time.

The Broadside — 77% cabernet and 23% merlot — was the least expensive, at \$18, and the most perplexing. I’ve been a big fan of the Margarita Vineyard cabernets for the past 10 years, but I didn’t care much for the 2018. It had dark fruit flavors, a touch of spice and a creamy, vanilla note that I found off-putting. It also lacked the drive and energy of the other two bottles, and seemed a bit hot at 14.5% alcohol.

In wine and politics and too many other areas, broad, simple messages seem irresistible. They support dogma and perhaps make life seem easier. But by ignoring complexities and nuance, they diminish understanding. That’s the worst possible outcome.

No-cook oats are perfect grab-and-go breakfast

By Carolyn Casner | EatingWell

It takes just minutes to assemble this healthy no-cook breakfast, and you’ll have meal-prepped grab-and-go breakfasts on hand for the rest of the week. Top these delicious vegan oats — inspired by classic cinnamon bun flavors — with fresh or frozen fruit and your favorite nuts and seeds.



This dish is inspired by classic cinnamon bun flavors. DERA BURRESON/EATINGWELL

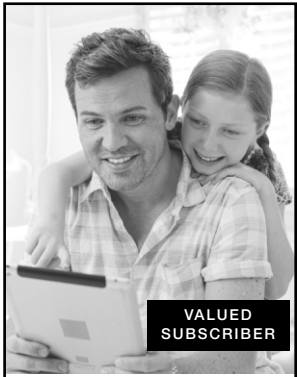
Cinnamon roll overnight oats

Makes: 5 servings
Active time: 5 minutes
Total time: 8 hours
2 ½ cups old-fashioned rolled oats
2 ½ cups unsweetened nondairy milk, such as almond or coconut
8 teaspoons light brown sugar
2 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
1 ¼ teaspoons ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt
Stir oats, milk, brown sugar, vanilla, cinnamon and salt together in a large bowl. Divide among five 8-ounce jars. Screw on

lids and refrigerate overnight or for up to five days.

Notes: People with celiac disease or gluten-sensitivity should use oats that are labeled “gluten-free,” as oats are often cross-contaminated with wheat and barley. To make ahead: Refrigerate, covered, for up to five days.

Recipe nutrition per serving: 197 calories, total fat: 4 g, saturated fat: 1 g, carbohydrates: 35 g, fiber: 5 g, total sugars: 8 g, added sugars: 6 g, protein: 6 g, sodium: 318 mg, potassium: 174 mg, iron: 2 mg, folate: 20 mcg, calcium: 252 mg, vitamin A: 252 IU, vitamin C: 0 mg



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| Sclafani Imported Red Wine Vinegar (68 oz.) | \$4.99 |
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Dalgona candy from South Korea. **SANG AN/THE NEW YORK TIMES**



Chicken kofta stuffed with an egg at New York's Dhamaka. **JENNY HUANG/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2020**

By **Kim Severson**
The New York Times

Last year at this time, optimistic trend forecasters predicted that the cork would burst from the bottle by summer. With vaccines in arms, food culture would vibrate in a robust economy. American menus would be full of innovation driven by waves of international travel, and a new generation of digital-native cooks would rewrite the rules.

Clearly, the prediction game can be a losing one. But so what if things didn't turn out like everyone thought they would? Trying to forecast food trends is still fun and sometimes even accurate. (Kudos to those professional prognosticators who in recent years nailed the mainstream rise of quesabirria, soufflé pancakes, delivery-only restaurants and CBD. And a special citation for those who saw early on that those ripples of veganism would become a plant-based tsunami.)

So, how are things looking for 2022? Not great. The year is starting with a surge of a highly contagious variant of COVID-19 that is only adding to the economic uncertainty. Social justice concerns remain top of mind for many, as does pressure from a fast-changing climate. All of it will affect how food is grown, cooked and packaged. But don't despair.

"Constraint breeds innovation," said Anna Fabrega, a former Amazon executive who recently took over as CEO at the meal subscription service Freshly.

She and other food industry leaders in the United States say 2022 will be another pragmatic, roll-up-your-sleeves kind of year, shaped by the needs of people working from home and by the culinarily-as-tute-but-fickle Gen Z, whose members want food with sustainable ingredients and a strong cultural backstory, prepared without exploitation and delivered in a carbon-neutral way — within 30 minutes.

With that in mind, here are some potential developments, big and small, that could define how we eat in the new year, based on a review of dozens of trend reports and interviews with food company executives, global market researchers and others who make it their business to scour the landscape for what's next.

Ingredient of the year

Mushrooms have landed on many prediction lists, in almost every form, from psilocybin mushrooms (part of the renewed interest in psychedelics) to thick coins of king oyster mushrooms as a stand-in for scallops. The number of small urban farms growing mushrooms is expected to bloom, and mushroom fibers will start to proliferate as a cheap, compostable medium for packaging.

Drink of the year

Even in the age of no-alcohol cocktails, all those 1980s drinks you can barely remember (for obvious reasons) are coming back. Look for Blue Lagoons, Tequila Sunrises, Long Island iced tea and amaretto sours re-engineered with fresh juices, less sugar and better spirits.

"We all need things that are sweet and colorful and joyful and playful, especially now," said Andrew Freeman, president of AF & Co., the San Francisco consulting firm that for 14 years has published a popular food and hospitality trend report. (A corollary to the cocktails: the rise of ecospirits, made with ingredients from local farms or food waste and packaged and shipped using climate-friendly methods.)

Chicken, re-hatched

Meat grown in laboratories from animal cells is on its way to winning federal approval as soon as the end of 2022, and chicken will be one of the first products to become available. But plant-based chicken from companies like Impossible Foods and Beyond Meat has recently arrived in groceries and restaurants, and the battle

How will Americans eat in 2022?

Food forecasters reveal what to expect



A bowl of the noodle soup laksa in Singapore. **LAURYN ISHAK/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2018**



Korean fried chicken marries sweet and spicy, for "swicy," in New York. **KARSTEN MORAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2016**

is on to determine which substitute will dominate the market. And in the real-chicken world, a shortage of wings has restaurants trying to persuade the masses to love a different part of the chicken. The Wingstop chain, for instance, has expanded its brand with Thighstop.

Seaweed to the rescue

Kelp grows fast, has a stand-up nutri-



Mushrooms grown inside a warehouse in New York. **CHRIS MAGGIO/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

tional profile and removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and nitrogen from the ocean. As a result, farmed kelp will move beyond dashi and the menus at some high-end restaurants and into everyday foods like pasta and salsa.

Candy nostalgia

Nostalgic childhood favorites from China (White Rabbit candy and haw

flakes) and South Korea (the honeycomb-like treat ppopgi, aka dalgona candy, and Apollo straws) will work their way into American shopping carts and recipes for desserts and drinks.

Robusta rising

The third-wave coffee movement was built on arabica, the world's most popular coffee. But climate change is threatening production and driving prices up, said Kara Nielsen, who tracks food and drink trends for WGSN, a consumer forecasting and consulting firm. Enter robusta, the bitter, heavily caffeinated workhorse that is less expensive and easier to cultivate. It is the predominant bean grown in Vietnam, where coffee is made with a metal filter called a phin and sweetened with condensed milk and sometimes an egg yolk.

A new style of Vietnamese coffee shop is popping up in many U.S. cities, promising to take the robusta right along with it.

Tasty tableware

The quality of edible spoons, chopsticks, plates, bowls and cups is going up and the price is going down, signaling the start of a full-fledged edible-packaging revolution aimed at reducing single-use containers and plastic waste.

Sugar and 'swice'

Mash-ups like "swicy" and "swalty" will join the linguistic mania that brought us unfortunate nicknames like char coot and Cae sal (charcuterie and Caesar salad, that is). The new phraseology reflects an even wider embrace of flavor fusions that marry savory spices and heat with sweetness. Nene, a South Korean-based fried chicken chain that is just starting to move into North America, has even named a sauce swicy. Its flavor profile mirrors what would happen if gochujang and ketchup had a baby.

Flavor of the year

Yuzu has its fans, but the even money is on hibiscus, which is adding its crimson hue and tart, earthy flavor to everything from cocktails and sodas to crudos and yogurt.

A focus on India

With COVID limiting international travel in 2021, U.S. cooks explored regional American food. In 2022, regional foods from India will get a lot of attention, with deep dives into dishes from Gujarat, Kerala, Kashmir, Tamil Nadu and the Awadh area.

Vibe of the year

With the supply chain in tatters and restaurant staffs stretched nearly to the breaking point, demanding shoppers and diners are out, and patience is in. A growing interest in the historical and cultural nature of food and its impact on the climate will only add to what forecasters (optimistically) say will be a new emphasis on kindness and understanding.

As Jennifer Zigler, associate director of food and drink at the research firm Mintel, put it, "We've all gone through this stressful, anxious couple of years, and there's that willingness to have some empathy and understanding."

A buffet of other bites

Beyond the big trends are a long menu of smaller ones: the growing popularity of Koji bacon, the Chinese spirit baijiu and the noodle soup laksa. Jollof rice will appear on menus and in the frozen-foods section. Seeds will muscle in on nuts as an alternative protein source, in products like butters and ice creams.

And look for a burst of new interest in animal-free cheese, potato milk, moringa, Taiwanese breakfast dishes, high tea and olives.